Name and Address of Submitter:
ANNIE MERLE MC REE WILLIAMS
RT.14 BOX 204
3020 PRETTY BRANCH DR. EAST
MOBILE, AL 36618
PHONE:1-205-649-0401

Chart No. ____

Number 1 on this chart
is the same person
as No. ____ on
Chart No. ____

1 ANNIE MERLE MC REE-5
BORN: 9 JUN 1936
PLACE: MERIDIAN,MS
MARR: 11 FEB 1956 --5
PLACE: LUCEDALE,MS
DIED:
PLACE:

#2 CARROL WILLIAMS-24
Spouse
B. 3 Feb 1936

#1 JAMES W. GRIFFIN
B 9 april 1932
D 24 mar 1954
Killed in ARMY

2 RUPERT LARUE MC REE-1
BORN: 24 FEB 1909
PLACE: CARMICHAEL,MS
MARR: 16 MAR 1932(div) --1
PLACE: STONEWALL,MS
DIED: 24 APR 1976
PLACE: MARSHALL,TX

3 TENNIE MAE STEWART-2
BORN: 25 FEB 1912
PLACE: FORREST,MS
DIED: 29 DEC 1982
PLACE: MOBILE,AL

4 JOHN NEAVEL MC REE-70
BORN: 3 AUG 1876
PLACE: DESOTO,MS
MARR: 27 JAN 1907 --19
PLACE: DESOTO,MS
DIED: 2 FEB 1959
PLACE: MERIDIAN,MS

5 MATTIE SUSAN ROBERTS-71
BORN: 14 APR 1875
PLACE: ,MS
DIED: 14 JUN 1952
PLACE: MERIDIAN,MS

6 WILLIAMS MATTHEW STEWART-160
BORN: 1871
PLACE: ,,MS
MARR: --47
PLACE:
DIED: 1917
PLACE: FOREST,MS

7 ELLA REBECCA NELSON-161
BORN: 1873
PLACE: MS
DIED:
PLACE:

8 NEAVEL Ellison MC REE-84
BORN: 21 JUL 1820
PLACE: ,SC
MARR: 22 AUG 1886 --25
PLACE: QUITMAN,MS
DIED: 4 JUL 1883
PLACE: DESOTO,MS

9 SUSAN JEWEL BARTEE-85
BORN: 30 MAR 1846
PLACE: ,GA
DIED: 10 JUN 1912
PLACE: MERIDIAN,MS

10 JOHN HENERY ROBERTS-190
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR: --60
PLACE:
DIED: 10 MAR 1905
PLACE:

11 ELLEN POOL-191
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

12 JAMES THOMAS STEWART-368
BORN: 19 FEB 1845
PLACE: BOLUXI,MS
MARR: --130
PLACE:
DIED: 20 APR 1933
PLACE:

13 SALLIE GIBBS-369 Mollie
BORN: 1 Jan 1865
PLACE:
DIED: 12 MAY 1898
PLACE:

14
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

15
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

Name and Address of Submitter:
ANNIE MERLE MC REE WILLIAMS
RT.14 BOX 204
3020 PRETTY BRANCH DR. EAST
MOBILE, AL 36618

PHONE:1-205-649-0401

Number 1 on this chart
is the same person
as No. ____ on
Chart No. ____

2 MC REE JOHN SR. COL.-162
BORN: 1767
PLACE: S.C.
MARR: --48
PLACE:
DIED: 19 JUL 1810
PLACE: MARIAN,DIST.,S.C.

1 JOHN MC REE JR.-108
BORN: 1788
PLACE:
MARR: --27
PLACE:
DIED: 14 FEB 1854
PLACE:
MARTHA NEAVEL-109
Spouse

3 UNKNOW-163
BORN: -
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

4 WILLIAMS JR. MC REE-165
BORN: 1696
PLACE: N.C.
MARR: --49
PLACE:
DIED: 18 JAN 1789
PLACE: BLADEN,CO.,N.C.

5 MARGARET JONES-166
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

WILLIAM NEAVEL
6
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

RODA
7
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

Chart

8 WILLIAM SR. MC REE FOUNDER-170
BORN: 1675
PLACE: COUNTY DOWN,IRELAND
MARR: --50
PLACE:
DIED: 1751
PLACE: DUPLIN CO.,NC

9 UNKNOWN-171
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

SQUIRLY GRIFFITH JO
10
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

11
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

12
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

13
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

14
BORN:
PLACE:
MARR:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

15
BORN:
PLACE:
DIED:
PLACE:

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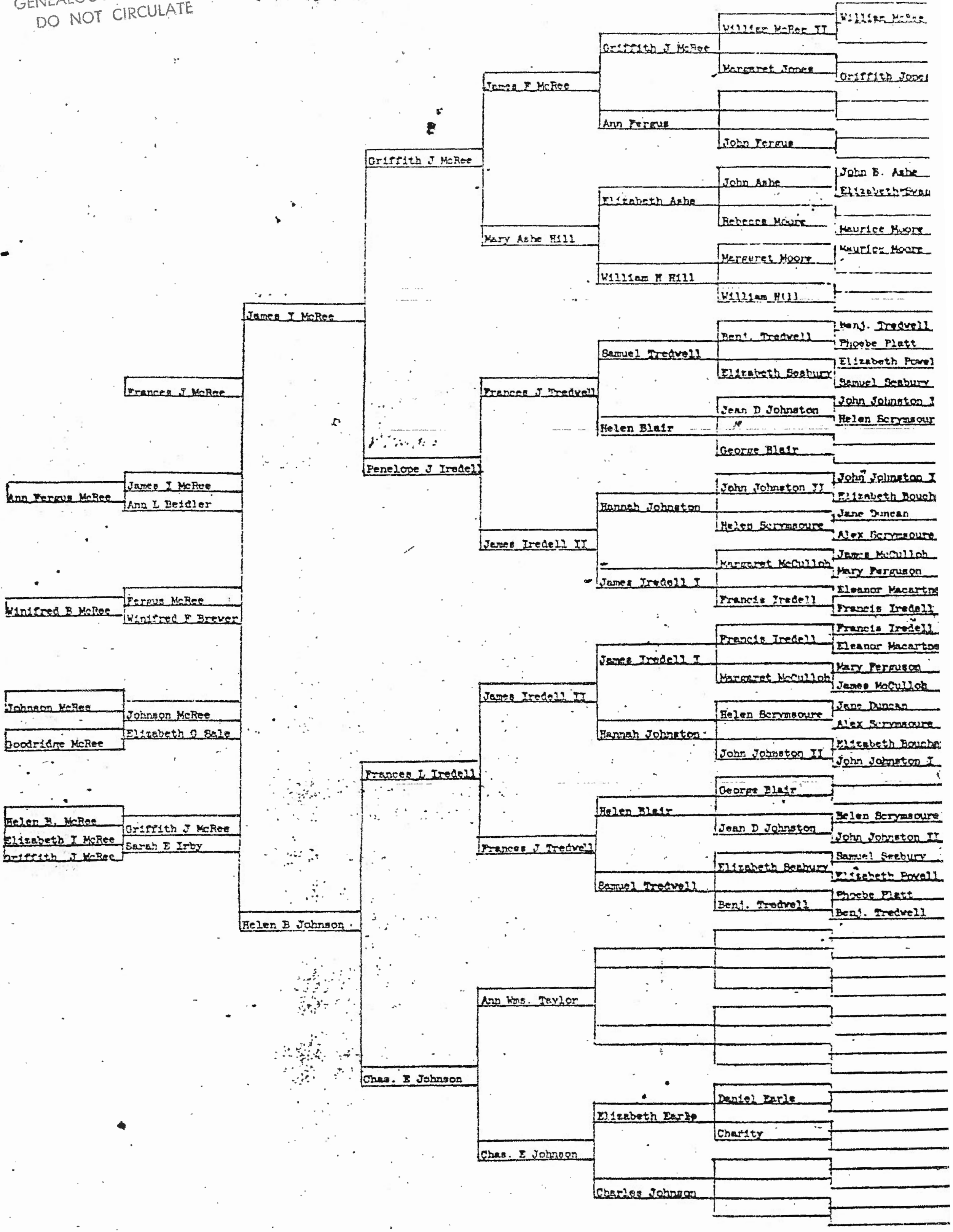
Ann Fergus McRee
Winifred B McRee
Johnson McRee
Goodridge McRee
Helen B. McRee
Elizabeth I McRee
Griffith J McRee
Frances J McRee
James I McRee
Ann L Beidler
Fergus McRee
Winifred F Brewer
Johnson McRee
Elizabeth G Sale
Griffith J McRee
Sarah E Irby
James I McRee
Helen B Johnson
Griffith J McRee
Penelope J Iredell
Frances L Iredell
Chas. E Johnson
James F McRee
Mary Ashe Hill
Frances J Tredwell
James Iredell II
James Iredell II
Frances J Tredwell
Ann Wms. Taylor
Chas. E Johnson
Griffith J McRee
Ann Fergus
Elizabeth Ashe
William H Hill
Samuel Tredwell
Helen Blair
Hannah Johnston
James Iredell I
James Iredell I
Hannah Johnston
Helen Blair
Samuel Tredwell
Elizabeth Earle
Charles Johnson
William McRee II
Margaret Jones
John Fergus
John Ashe
Rebecca Moore
Margaret Moore
William Hill
Benj. Tredwell
Elizabeth Seabury
Jean D Johnston
George Blair
John Johnston II
Helen Scrymsoure
Margaret McCulloh
Francis Iredell
Francis Iredell
Margaret McCulloh
Helen Scrymsoure
John Johnston II
George Blair
Jean D Johnston
Elizabeth Seabury
Benj. Tredwell
Daniel Earle
Charity
William McRee
Griffith Jone
John B. Ashe
Elizabeth Swa
Maurice Moore
Maurice Moore
Benj. Tredwell
Phoebe Platt
Elizabeth Powel
Samuel Seabury
John Johnston I
Helen Scrymsour
John Johnston I
Elizabeth Bouch
Jane Duncan
Alex Scrymsoure
James McCulloh
Mary Ferguson
Eleanor Macartne
Francis Iredell
Francis Iredell
Eleanor Macartne
Mary Ferguson
James McCulloh
Jane Duncan
Alex Scrymsoure
Elizabeth Bouche
John Johnston I
Helen Scrymsoure
John Johnston II
Samuel Seebury
Elizabeth Powell
Phoebe Platt
Benj. Tredwell

THE HENDRIX FAMILY OF MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ANTECEDENTS AND DESCENDANTS

Roberta L. Hendrix

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[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

The family of David Hendrix and his wife Margaret was an interesting one from the point of sex distribution; seven sons were born in succession that followed five daughters. From the Bible record furnished by Miss Ellen Hendrix the family may be named.

1. Jacob, born [illegible] April 1801, near Lexington, S.C. Married Mary Elizabeth Fraser at Lexington where they remained until after 1850. His wife having died in 1849 Jacob decided to follow his brothers Joel and Jahaziel Hendrix to Mobile. How long he stayed here is not known; but his son Patrick Hendrix enlisted from Mobile in 1861 as a Confederate soldier. Probably after the War between the States, Jacob joined his brother in or near DeSoto, Mississippi. He died there in 1882. His family is also unusual, in that he, too, had seven sons in succession, followed by three daughters.[1] His wife Mary E. Hendrix, consort of Jacob Hendrix, is buried in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Lexington, S.C. She died 30 November 1849, aged 52 years, 8 mo. and 1 day.

   The names of all of his sons are not remembered, but in 1850 while Jacob was still living in Lexington, the census return was as follows; Jacob Hendrix, age 49, Robert Hendrix, age 25, occupation, shoemaker; Eli Hendrix, age 28; Joseph Hendrix, age 20; Henry Hendrix, age 17; Jane A., age 15; Anna M.B., age 13; Mary E., age ll.

The letter just quoted from Hattie McRee Hendrix reveals that her father Patrick Henry (called Henry) Hendrix moved with his family to Tampa, Florida, in March of 1882, shortly after the death of her grandfather Jacob Hendrix. Patrick Henry married Caroline Rebecca McRee in 1867, having delayed marriage until he was thirty-six years old. He died in September of 1882, just a few months after moving to Florida, having had eleven children in fifteen years, ten of whom survived him.

2. John, second son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 18 July 1803. He was the only one of David's sons who remained in South Carolina until his death. He married Elizabeth Sharpe Hook, widow of Philip Hook, and was preparing to move his family to Alabama, when he was killed by a fall from his horse near the Saluda river; so his family remained in South Carolina to be the ones to preserve the family records of David's family. The date of John's death was 14 April 1834. He left five children. Sarah Hendrix, b. about 1725, married Lewis Riddle; Joseph E. Hendrix born about 1827 (1850 census), married Catherine Rawl; John Solomon Hendrix, born 12 November 1831-died 19 October 1917, married Martha Ann Snellgrove; he was the father of Ellen Hendrix who never married and to whom we are indebted for these records;[1] Jane, born about 1732, married Elbert Kaminer; Henry Edwin, born about 1733, married Isabel------. Elizabeth Hendrix is buried at Turners Landing in St. John's Lutheran Church Cemetery: Elizabeth Hendrix, born 14 February 1797-died 16 Oct. 1883. There is a space next to this stone for another grave, but no stone is there; John Solomon and his wife are also buried in this cemetery.

3. Jeremiah, third son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 18 September, 1805. We have no further reference to him, although it appears that he was living in his father's family in 1820. The census of that year gives David six children living with him. We know that Jacob and John did not leave South Carolina with their parents, and four daughters were born after 1820, which leaves six children in David's family at that date. The sexes are not recorded correctly in the census, but these errors were very common on the part of enumerators. It appears that Jeremiah removed to an unknown location, or died young.

4. James, fourth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix was born 17 March 1809. He married Lidia-----, born about 1816 in South Carolina, and in the 1850 census they have seven children in their household; Reuben, age 16; Peter, age 14; Margaret, age 12; Artemesia, age 8; Asa S., age 5, Lucy, age 3; Noah, age 1. James married for his second wife Chloe Walker on 5 January 1854. (Marriages, Vital records, Monroe County Courthouse, Monroeville, Alabama.)

   James Hendrix like others in the family removed to Florida sometime after 1854 and most likely after 1870; Miss Hattie Hendrix remembered this family and said that Cousin Lucy told stories of her grandfather David. The last time she saw him she was about five years old, which seems to verify his death date as 1852[2]; also he must have lived his last years in or near Monroeville, but he was not found in the 1850 census; he may have lived in another town nearby.

5. Joel, the fifth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 19 June 1811. Although he is believed to have accompanied his

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[1] J. Ed Hendrix, *Manuscript* Letter from Miss Hattie McRee Hendrix, Plant City, Florida to Mr. Hendrix; Hattie Hendrix was a daughter of Patrick Henry Hendrix, youngest son of Jacob Hendrix.

[1] *Manuscript*, J. Ed Hendrix, Family data furnished by Miss Ellen Hendrix of Lexington, S.C.

[2] *Manuscript*, J. Ed Hendrix, Letter [illegible] McRee of Florida.

parents to Conecuh County, Alabama in 1818, he is reported to have learned the mercantile trade in Lexington, S.C. and to have been a merchant in Columbia, S.C. in early manhood. About 1835 he removed to Mobile, Alabama, where he married Martha A. Taylor on 18 October 1840. He owned property in Mobile, but is said to have sold his interests and moved to DeSoto, Mississippi, before the Civil War. Here he planted and developed a 300 acre peach and fruit farm, which was destroyed during the Civil War. He removed to Manatee county, Florida, in 1870, becoming the third settler in Palmetto on the north side of the Manatee river. He planted the first orange grove in that section and also started the fruit and vegetable growing for northern markets. He died 1 July 1892. He had the following children: Francis Henry, born 1841 - killed in the Battle of Chickamauga near Chattanooga in September 1864; Margaret Elizabeth, born 1846 - died 1850; Mary Thackley, born 1849, married Thomas Bruce McRee in Clark County, Miss in 1870, Millard Fillmore, born 1852-married Mary E. Bronson; Hillard Davis, born 1855 - died 1868; Gilbert Taylor, born 1858 - died 1863; Joel Wigfall, born 1861, married Jane S. Nettles.[2]

6. Jahaziel Hendrix, sixth son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 5 November 1813 and died 26 November 1896. His story will be taken up at the conclusion of the information about his brothers and sisters.

7. Noah Hendrix, seventh son of David and Margaret Meetze Hendrix, was born 24 September 1816. He is said to have enlisted in the Seminole Wars, between 1835 - 1842, being killed or dying while in service. He is buried in the garrison at Fort Brock, near Tampa, Florida. He was possibly the first of the family to go into the newly purchased territory of Florida.

8. Charlotte Hendrix, born 24 September 1818. No further record.

9. Martha Hendrix, born 22 February 1821. No further record.

10. Sarah Hendrix, born 15 February, 1825; she married a man named Campbell, and died at DeSoto, Miss. about 1890; it is said that she went to Florida about the time Joel Hendrix did, but later returned to DeSoto. Martin Luther Hendrix remembered his aunt Sarah Campbell.

11. Naomi Hendrix, born 15 March 1830. No further record.

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[2] Letter to Miss Lenice McRee, from descendant of Nevel McRee, husband of Jocassian Hendrix.

12. Margaret Hendrix, born 15 August 1823; married Eli Hendrix, her cousin and son of Peter Hendrix. J. Ed Hendrix remembers Margaret and Eli when they lived at Mexia, Alabama. Eli was a Methodist preacher; in 1850 this couple was living in Mobile County, Alabama.

The story of Jahaziel Hendrix can be told not only from records, but from personal knowledge. Born 8 November 1813 near the waters of Saluda river about seven miles northwest of Lexington village, his family home was in or near the German settlement of Saxe-Gotha, where his maternal grandfather John Yost Meetze had established himself soon after the American Revolution. In this region also had settled Tobias Hendrix and his four sons and his son-in-law, Amos Hendrix. David Hendrix married Margaret Meetze about 1800 and apparently lived in his father's household in 1800. By 1810 he had his own home, possibly on part of the paternal acres. Here his family attended St. Peter's Lutheran Church, of which his father-in-law John Yost Meetze was pastor for many years.[1]

The fever to emigrate to new lands seemed to hit David and his older brother Peter at about the same time, for they were both gone from the old home between 1818 and 1820. Their nephew, Henry, son of John Hendrix, also removed about this time to Monroeville, where he was married to his second wife Mary C. Porter on [illegible] December 1818. His first wife, whom he had married about 1812 in South Carolina, died before he removed to Monroeville, leaving him with three daughters.[2]

David Hendrix settled first near Red Level, Conecuh County, Alabama, where he must have had a large establishment, as he owned twelve slaves in 1820. His younger children all presumably came to Alabama at that time with their parents. The two older boys remained behind, Jacob to work in the store and shoe shop of his uncle John Meetze; John Hendrix may have kept the old home, for he fell from his horse to his death on the lands by the Saluda river in 1834.

Little is known about the years in Conecuh County, nor exactly when David followed his brother into Monroe County, Alabama. He was there in 1840 and probably died there in 1852. In the meantime, his sons had reached man's estate and left the paternal home. We know that James also settled in Monroe County, but Jahaziel went to Clarke County, Mississippi, to a spot about seven miles from the town of DeSoto. His grandson, Robertus McKee, told the writer in 1962, while

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[1] Scott, Edwin J., *Random Recollections*, p. 106
[2] Hendrix, Mary Louise, *Hendrix Kith & Kin*, p. 3.

I was a guest in his home, that Jahaziel had owned the farm property where the McRees now lived, near DeSoto, Mississippi.

He showed me the place where the old home had stood, not many yards from the present house, which was built by the McRees. Surrounding the present house are seven huge, old, live oak trees. Fields where beef stock are now pastured spread out from the home. In 1962 the road into the farm was unbelievable, a narrow, dirt road winding in from federal route [illegible], through sparsely settled farm country. The [illegible] old home built in the traditional southern style, with a [illegible] traversing the center of the house and high rooms opening either side, [illegible] equipped with all modern conveniences. From the kitchen and the [illegible] the most bountiful meal I have ever been [illegible] was set before us.

An old deed to the property was brought out, but the Hendrix name was not on it. Apparently Jahaziel had worked the land before 1850, but had not secured a grant from the state. A man named Knight had then bought the cleared and improved land from Jahaziel, and secured a state grant. He sold to Neville E. McRee, who had come to Clarke County with two older members of his family.

The McRees and the Hendrixes intermarried several times. Two sons and a daughter of Neville McRee married Hendrix cousins, the daughter of Joel Hendrix, the daughter of Jahaziel Hendrix and the son of Jacob Hendrix. From which it is evident that Joel, Jacob, and Jahaziel were all located close together in Mississippi, perhaps Jahaziel, who had no deed clearing a corner of Joel's three hundred acre peach orchard.

While in Mississippi, Jahaziel married Harriet Emaline Hurt. Within a short time, they removed to Mobile County, Alabama, for in 1850 they were living in Mobile County, near Joel Hendrix, Ely Hendrix, and Joseph Hendrix, the last two men being his cousins and sons of Peter Hendrix. In 1850 Jahaziel and Harriet Emaline had two children, Lucinda, age 3 years, and Joel, age 1 year.[1]

On June 22, 1852 Jahaziel Hendrix received a deed to a tract of land called part of the St. Louis tract, three miles north of Mobile, by Jacob and Mary Magee. In a deed transfer dated 17 November 1869 and recorded in May 1870, Jahaziel Hendrix for one hundred dollars received another tract of land from James H. Meaker and wife.[2]

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[1] *Federal Census*, Mobile County, Alabama, 1850.
[2] *Record of Deeds*, Mobile County Courthouse, Mobile, Alabama.

In a deed of property release signed by the widow and children of Jahaziel Hendrix on 29 April 1899, those signing released their interest in the property of Jahaziel Hendrix to their son and brother John Hendrix, for six hundred dollars; recorded 25 May 1899. Those signing were: Eugene McRee and Delia McRee; Kate Hendrix and Luther Hendrix, Lou Buckley and George Buckley; Martha Toomer, and Thomas G. Toomer; Joel Hendrix; Jacob Hendrix; William Hendrix; and finally Harriet Hendrix, the widow, made her mark.

The family Bible of Jahaziel Hendrix remained in the possession of his son John Hendrix who continued to live in the old home with his mother Harriet until her death in 1901; his son John inherited and sold the property for a modest amount. The Bible disappeared.

The family home stood on the spot now occupied by Vigor High School in Prichard, Alabama, about a mile from the home later established by Luther Hendrix. Jahaziel and his wife were interred in Rawls Cemetery near their home, but no monuments were erected. Ruth Hendrix, daughter of Luther, said that at one time there were wooden crosses, but they were long gone by the time I visited the spot. Several of their children were also buried in this spot, once quiet and rural, but now enveloped by the city of Prichard. In the nineteen fiftys, the city was about to remove all vestiges of the cemetery where only one marker remained, when Ruth Hendrix Summersgill protested and the city officials were obliged to leave the spot untouched. It is now a small, mowed plot with city traffic passing on all sides. Plans to erect a large marker with the names of those buried in the cemetery was never realized.

Without the Bible of Jahaziel Hendrix, the birthdates of his children were difficult to obtain. Census returns are often inaccurate, as is evident when reviewing the different returns at ten year intervals. Some enumerators were more precise than others while a few seemed to acquire the information from one who was guessing, or did not care to state true ages.

By comparing the returns with such family knowledge as was available, and taking into consideration the information given on such death certificates as were obtainable, the following roster of children was compiled.

Harriet Hurt Hendrix was born about 1827-1828, possibly in [illegible] No one seemed to really know her birthplace; the [illegible] [illegible] have Georgia, Mississippi, North and South [illegible] [illegible] their mother. While she [illegible] turns gave her birthplace as Alabama. She married Jahaziel Hendrix about [illegible] in Mississippi as is presumed.

[illegible]

1. [illegible], called Lu, born 1847, married George Buckley. They had a son and a daughter.

2. Joel, called Joe, born [illegible], died unmarried 2 April 1913.

3. Martha, born 20 May 1852 at Turnerville (Prichard); married Thomas Toomer and died 26 July 1922. They had one son.

4. Jocassian, called Cassie, born about 1854, married Neville McRee, Jr., son of Neville E. McRee, who lived on the old homestead near DeSoto, Mississippi. She died there 29 April 1893. Her son, Robertus McRee received the property by inheritance and/or purchase from his many brothers and sisters, by three wives of Neville McRee, Jr. who had fourteen children.

5. Delia Annie, born about 1856 at Turnerville, married Eugene McRee, son of Ellison McRee, and a nephew of Neville McRee, Jr. She lived on Turner Road, between Turnerville (Prichard) and Whistler, where she died 16 March 1929. Her children were Edgar McRee, married Pauline or Polly Jensen. Lenies McRee, unmarried, and Estelle, married John Finch.

6. William, born about 1858 at Turnerville, died 10 October 1910, unmarried.

7. John, born June, 1860, lived in Jahaziel's old home, and married Sarah McGee. They had one son, John Jr., who died unmarried.

8. Jacob, born 5 July 1863, at Turnerville, died unmarried 7 July, 1921.

9. Martin Luther, called Luther, born 15 August 1869, married Kate Wilson Smith on 26 February 1892 and died 20 July 1913.

Martin Luther Hendrix acquired about eleven acres of land on Turner Road, between Turnerville, now Prichard, and Whistler, in Mobile County. On this land less than a mile from his father's home, [illegible] a [illegible] in the southern manner, with a wide hall traversing the house and two large and airy rooms opening off on each side. The actual work of building was done by Luther and his brothers, for all were skilled at carpentry. It was completed at 1896 and there Luther and his wife Kate spent the remainder of their lives. Their daughter Ruth took over the home after the early deaths of her parents, made a home for her brothers, and lived all her life, except for a year or two early in her marriage, in this house. Kate Hendrix died in February or March 1913 of tuberculosis; no record of her death has been found, either at the Vital Records Bureau of Mobile County or at the State Archives in Montgomery. Her children, being young, do not remember the exact date.

Martin Luther died the same year, 20 July 1913, leaving four children, the oldest eighteen years old. His death certificate says he died of uremia; his daughter said he had a stroke and ulcers on his legs, which leads one to think of diabetes, which has appeared in one of his grandsons. He worked in the railroad shops at Whistler until he was struck by lightening in the early nineteen hundreds. After this misfortune he gradually lost the use of his legs, always walking with the aid of a staff. He became a gardener, raising vegetables for the local market. There was never a mortgage on his home during his lifetime. Luther and his wife Kate were buried in Rawls cemetery beside his parents; all trace of their graves is now obliterated.

Their first child, Sarah Frances, was born in the home of her grandparents on 22 February 1893; she died 25 July 1893.[1]

2. Ruth Lee, their second daughter, was born 21 February 1895 and died 13 February 1970. She attended local schools until the age of fourteen, when she had to give up her dream of attending high school and remain at home to help her ailing mother. After the death of her parents, she kept the home together with the aid of her mother's brother, uncle Jim Smith. He lived with the family most of the time. Ruth married Hanson Rexford Summersgill 19 August 1914.[2]

Their children:

a. Mary Katherine Summersgill, born 15 October 1915 - died 10 May 1918.

b. Ruth LaDelle Summersgill, born 20 September 1917; married Alfred Dailey Wilber, Jr. 19 June 1938. He was born 30 June 1913. Five children - Ruth LaDelle, Diana Dale, Alfred David, Harry Lee, and Samuel Michael Wilber. Ruth LaDelle

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[1] [illegible] Smith Family Bible, in possession of H.R. Summersgill, Jr.

[2] [illegible] in possession of H. R. Summersgill, Jr.

father born S.C., Mother born S.C.
Catherine R. Smith - 66 - wife - S.C.
father born Va., Mother born Va.
Georgianie A. Smith - 27 - daughter - Ala.
father born N.C., Mother born S.C.
Wh[illegible]on, William - 14 - grand son - born Miss.
father born Ala., Mother born Tenn.

James B. Smith settled in Calhoun County, Alabama, after his marriage to Frances A. Rogers.

Census, Calhoun County, Alabama, Beat 12, Dartsville; enumerated [illegible] June 1880. (Calhoun County was formerly Benton County)

James B. Smith - 48 - farmer - born S.C.
father born N.C., Mother born S.C.
Fannie A. Smith - age 32 - born Ala.
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.
Katie W. - age 10 - daughter - born Ala.
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.
John B. - age 8 - son - born Ala.
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.
Josiah - age 5 - son - born Ala.
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.
William - son - born Ala.
father born S.C., Mother born Ala.

The births as recorded in the Bible of James B. Smith are as follows;
James B. Smith - born 9 June 1831
Frances A. Rogers - born 29 May 1845
Married 17 September 1865

1. Girl - born 8/15/1868 - died 8/15/1868, Oxford, Ala.
2. Catherine (Kate) Wilson Smith - born 1/[illegible]/1870 - died 3/ /1913, Whistler, Ala., married Martin Luther Hendrix 2/26/1892
3. John Burrell Smith - born 4/25/1872, Oxford, Ala. - died at Whistler, Ala.
4. Josiah Rogers Smith - born 6/28/1874, Oxford, Ala. - died 2/7/1913, Whistler, Ala., married Tillie Long.
5. Walker Leander Sylvester Smith - born 10/18/1875, Oxford, Ala. died 7/22/1876, Oxford, Ala.
6. Infant - born 9/11/1877 - died 9/11/1877
7. James Thompson Smith - born 6/9/1880
Married Mrs. Shannahan (no Children)

It will be noted that the infant called William in the Census of 1880 was renamed James Thompson Smith. At the time of the census enumeration he was eight days old. James B. Smith died at Oxford, Ala. 8 January 1883, leaving his wife and four living children. At an unknown date she came to Whistler, Ala. where her sister Amanda Fitzgerald was living; It was said that her sons sought employment in the railroad shops, so the date of coming to Whistler may have been about 1888. John Burrell (which I suspect should have been spelled "Burwell" in the Bible) died as a young man, some say by his own hand because of a love affair. James Thompson Smith married late in life; after the death of his sister Kate and her husband M.L. Hendrix, he lived much of the time in the home of his niece and nephews. Josiah or Joe Smith lived nearby on Turner Road. Frances Rogers Smith died 30 Dec. 1891 near Whistler, Ala. She and her sons John Burrell, Josiah, and daughter Kate are all buried in Rawls Cemetery, now completely obliterated. Only wooden crosses marked the graves and time caused their disappearance. The city of Prichard was about to allow the small cemetery to be used for building purposes, when a protest by Ruth Hendrix Summersgill prevented the destruction of the site. Today it is a neatly mowed spot within the City of Prichard.

A story recounted to me many years ago concerned Grandma Smith. I supposed the reference was to Frances Rogers Smith. It was to the effect that Grandma Smith was disinherited by her wealthy family because she married beneath her. Research in possible Rogers lines failed to disclose the story.

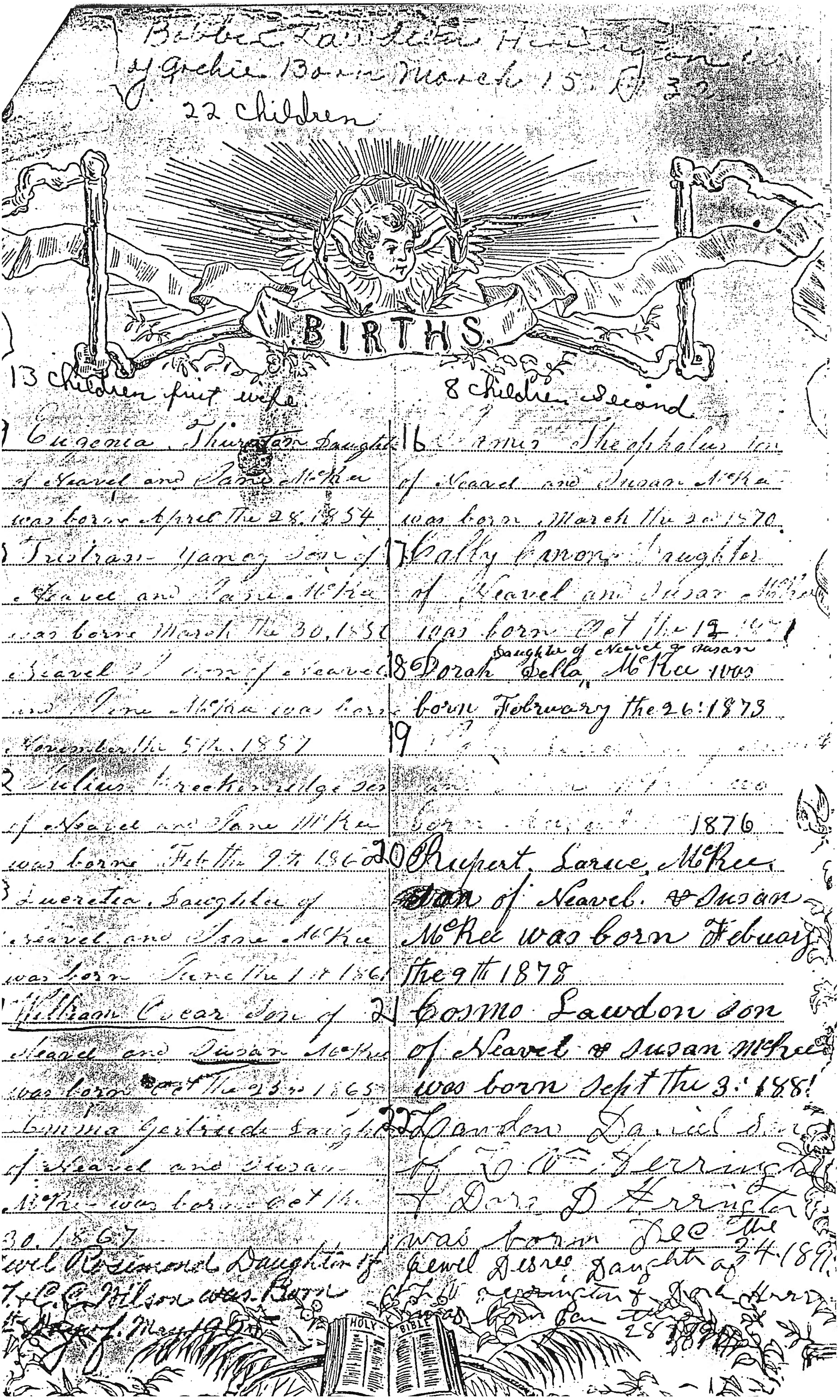
Lon Smith had thought that his grandmother's maiden name was Boller. Research here led me down many fruitless paths. Finally, while researching at the State Archives in Montgomery, Ala., trying to find out more about John Smith, a will was discovered, written by Susannah Bozeman 3 September 1845. She mentioned her daughter Catherine R. Smith, wife of John Smith of Benton County, State of Alabama. An immediate search in the 1880 Census for Benton County, Alabama, revealed John and Catherine and their four children, with names and dates corresponding to the family Bible. The will of Susannah Bozeman confirmed the disinheritance, but showed that it was the grandmother of Kate Wilson Smith who was disinherited, Catherine R. Bozeman Smith.

Wills of Abbeville County, S.C., 1839-1855 - p. 262. (State Archives, Columbia) Alabama Records, Vol. 88, compiled by Jones and Gandred, (Archives, Montgomery) in the name of God, Amen. I Susannah Bozeman, being of sound mind and disposing memory do ordain this my last will and testament, to wit Item 1st. - I give and bequeath to

BIRTHS

Neavel Ellison McRee
Son of John and Martha
McRee was borne July
the 21st 1820
Jane Margaret Witter
Daughter of Jeremiah
and Elizabeth Witter
was born April the 26
1818
6 Susan Jewel Bartee
Daughter of John P.
and Nancy Bartee was
Borne March the 30. 1846
1 Ellison Hugh Gee Mc
Ree Son of Neavel an
Jane McRee was borne
Sept the 29. 1841
2 Elizabeth Martha
McRee Daughter of Neavel
and Jane McRee was borne
June the 14 1843
Susan Jewell McRee
Daughter of Jno. R Bartee & by his Wife
Born Mar 30th [illegible]

3 Margaret Jane McR
Daughter of Neavel an
McRee was borne Decemb
the 15 1844
4 Deborah Ann Daugh
of Neavel and Jane
was born Feb the 3. 1
5 Thomas Bruce Son
Neavel and Jane McR
was borne Dec the 21. 18
6 Caroline Rebecca Da
of Neavel and Jane
McRee was born the
the 21. 1849
7 Charlott Ann Dau
of Neavel and Jane
was born April the 2
1851
8 Milton Brown Son
of Neavel and Jan
McRee was borne Nov
8th 1852



Bible [illegible] Heading [illegible]
y Grehie Born March 15. [illegible] 32
22 children

BIRTHS

13 children first wife

1 Eugenia Thurston Daughter
of Neavel and Jane McKee
was born April the 28. 1854

2 Tristram Yancy Son of
Neavel and Jane McKee
was born March the 30, 1856

Neavel [illegible] Son of Neavel
and Jane McKee was born
November the 5th. 1857

2 Julius Breckenridge Son
of Neavel and Jane McKee
was born Feb the 9th 1860

3 Lucretia, Daughter of
Neavel and Jane McKee
was born June the 1[illegible] 1861

William Oscar Son of
Neavel and Susan McKee
was born Oct the 23rd 1865

Emma Gertrude Daughter
of Neavel and Susan
McKee was born Oct the
30. 1867

Jewel Rosemond Daughter of
7. & C. C. Wilson was Born
[illegible] May 19[illegible]

8 children Second

16 James Theophalus Son
of Neavel and Susan McKee
was born March the 20 1870

17 Sally Canon Daughter
of Neavel and Susan McKee
was born Oct the 12 1871

18 Dorah Della, Daughter of Neavel & Susan McKee was
born February the 26: 1873

19 [illegible]
[illegible]
born [illegible] 1876

20 Rupert Larue, McKee
Son of Neavel. & Susan
McKee was born Febuary
the 9th 1878

21 Cosmo Lawdon son
of Neavel & Susan McKee
was born Sept the 3: 1881

22 Lawdon Daniel Son
of T. O. Herrington
& Dora D. Herrington
was born Dec the 24 189[illegible]

Jewel Desree, Daughter of
T. O. Herrington & Dora Herrington
was born Jan the 28 189[illegible]

[illegible] died Oct 7 [illegible]

DEATHS

ane Margaret McRa
ife of Neavel E McRa
ied July the 3rd 1861
Lucretia McRae Daughter
f Neavel and Jane McRae
ied June the 19th 1861
ristram yancy son of
eavel and Jane McR
ied Oct the 13th 18[illegible]
illiam Wear son of
eavel and Susan McRa
ied [illegible] the 21 1867
[illegible]
[illegible]

James Bre[illegible]
[illegible] Died No[illegible]
[illegible] 95
[illegible] J McRee
[illegible] June 10 1912
[illegible]

NEAVEL ELLISON MCRE
DIED 4 JULY 1883 AGE 63
DESOTO, MS
THIS WAS TO TIM JO
COPY
BY Merle William
Rt 3, Box 630
Mobile, al 36608 aug 4, 1983

Ellison [illegible]
[illegible] Son of N E
[illegible]
[illegible]

Tom Scott
Died Oct 29th 1900

Rufus L. McRee
died 13th day of Nov 1902

[illegible]
Died 26th da
of June 1904

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.	DEATHS.
homas Bruce son of vel and Jane McRee born, December 27th 1847	11 Neavel J. McRee Son of Neavel and Ja McRee was born Nove ber the 5th 1857.
oline Rebecca McRee ghter of Neavl E McRee ane his wife was born ne 21st 1849.	12 Julius Breckenridg McRee son of Neave & Jane McRee was born February the 9 1860.
~~line Rebecca daughter~~ ~~Neavel and Jane McRee~~	
arlotte Anna daughter Neavel and Jane Ree was borne April st 1851	13 Lucretia McRee Daughter of Neavel & Jane McRee wa born June the 1 1861 and ~~[illegible]~~ d on the 19th of the sam month
Milton Brown McRee. Son Nevel & Jane McRee as born Nov the 8th 1852	Jane Margaret McRee wife of Nea E McRee died Jun the 3rd 1861
genia Thurston Ree Daughter of Neavel d Jane McRee was born ril the 28th 1854	[illegible] McRe [illegible] of [illegible] McR Died Oct 13, 1863
stram Yancey McRee of Neavel & Jane McRee born March the 30th 1856	

FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

Nearvel E. McRee was
married to Jane Mc
Walter March the 1st 183

earvel E. McRee was
arried to Susan J
vite August the 22nd 1862

BIRTHS.

Nearvel Ellison McRee son
to John and Martha Mc
Ree was born July the 21st
1820

Jane Margaret Walter
daughter of Jeremiah an
Elizabeth Walter was
born apr, 26th A.D. ~~18[illegible]~~ 1818

1 Ellison Hugh-Gee McRe
son of Nearvel and Jane
McRee was borne Septem
the 29 AD 1841

2 Elizabeth Martha McRee
Daughter of Nearvel and
Jane McRee was born
June the 14th AD 1843

3 Margaret Jane McRee
daughter of Nearvel and
Jane McRee was bo
December 15th A.D. 184

4 Deborah Ann daughte
of Nearvel and Jane Mc
Ree was born Febru
the 3d A.D. 1846

CARROL WILLIAMS
A. MERLE WILLIAMS
~~3070~~ 3076 PRETTY BRANCH EAST DR.
MOBILE, AL 36618
205-649-0401

FAMILY RECORD

MARRIAGES.

N. E. McRee was
Married to Jane Mc
Watter March the 1st 1838

N. E. McRee was
married to Susan S.
Bartee August the 22nd
1862

J. H. O. Dirrington
was married to Dora
D. McRee. March the 19
1891.

James T. McKee
was married to
Lucy E. Culcher
Feb 23rd 1893.

J. H. F. Leming was
married to Emma
G. G. McRee Nov the 23 1893

~~John N. McKee~~
~~was married to~~
Bettie E. Cantrell
~~August the 9 1877~~

T. Sc [illegible]
married to C.
C. McRee A [illegible]
1900

Tom Scott was
married to Callie
C. McRee Apr 15th 190

[illegible] and
Mrs. Callie C. Scott
married Dec 25th 19

G [illegible] McR [illegible]
[illegible]
Married Jan 27 [illegible]

**Dora Annie McRee daughter
of John + Mattie borned Nov 29-1
Rupert L. son borned Feb 24.
John H [illegible] son borned
Nov 25-19**

CARROL WILLIAMS
A. MERLE WILLIAMS
3076 PRETTY BRANCH EAST DR.
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W. T. Fleming was
married to Emma
G McRee Nov the 23 1893

John N McRee
was married to
Bettie E Cantwell.
August the 9 1877.

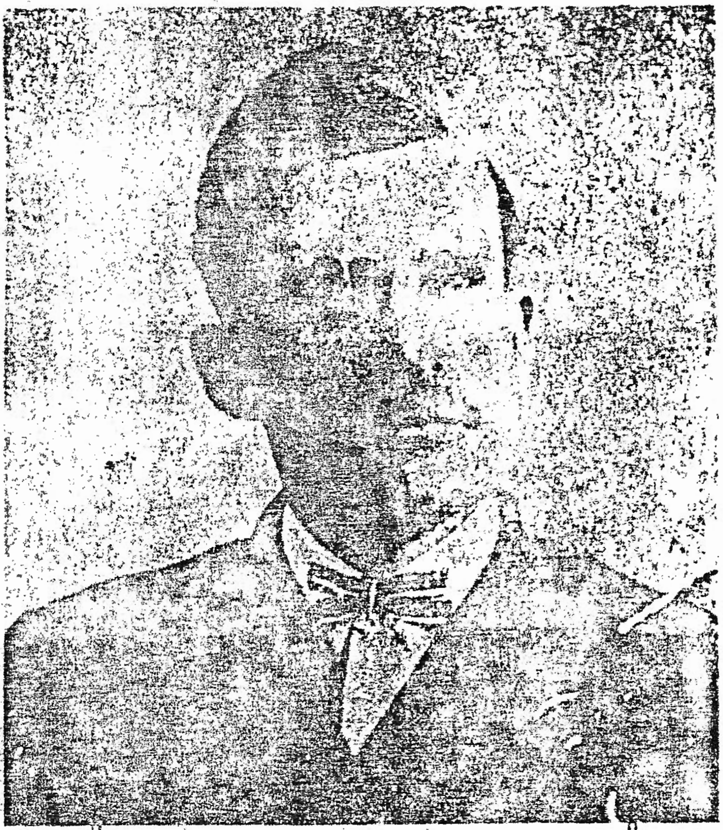
T Sc[illegible]
married to C
C McRee A[illegible]
1900

Tom Scott was
married to Callie
C McRee Apr the 15 1900

[illegible] and
Mrs Callie C Scott
Married Dec 25th 190[illegible]

[illegible] McR[illegible]
[illegible]
Married Jan 27 1[illegible]

Dora Annie McRee daughter
of John + Mattie borned Nov 29-1[illegible]
Rupert L son borned Feb 24.
John Henry son borned
Nov 25-19[illegible]



First Farm Owner

Neavel Ellison McRee, born July 2, 1820; died July 4, 1883, the first McRee to own the present Roderick McRee farm. (Photo courtesy Dixie Lee Streeter.)

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FOUR GENERATION ANCESTOR CHART

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 12 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 3

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b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
p.m. Place of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death

8 William McRee, Jr. (Father of No. 4. Cont. on chart No.)
b. 1696
p.b. County Down, Ire.
m.
p.m.
d. ca 1788/1789
p.d. Duplin Co. N.C.

4 John McRee, Sr. (Father of No. 2)
b. ca 1767
p.b. N.C.
m.
p.m.
d. ca 1803
p.d. Marion Co. S.C. at Pee Dee Rv.

9 Margaret Jones (Mother of No. 4. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b. Bladen Co., N.C.
d.
p.d. Bladen Co., N.C.

2 John McRee, Jr. (Father of No. 1)
b. 3/2/1788
p.b. S.C.
m. ca Jan. 1811
p.m. Pee Dee, S.C.
d. 2/14/1854
p.d. DeSoto, Miss.

10 (Father of No. 5. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
m.
p.m.
d.
p.d.

5 Unknown (Mother of No. 2)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

11 (Mother of No. 5. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

1 Neavel Ellison McRee
b. 7/22/1820
p.b. S.C.
m. 3/1/1838
p.m. S.C.
d. 7/4/1883
p.d. DeSoto, Miss.

12 (Father of No. 6. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
m.
p.m.
d.
p.d.

6 Gidian Blackman (Father of No. 3)
b.
p.b.
m.
p.m.
d.
p.d.

13 (Mother of No. 6. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

3 Martha (Blackman) Neavel (Mother of No. 1)
b. 1792
p.b. S.C.
d. 1861
p.d. DeSoto, Miss.

14 Whittington (Father of No. 7. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
m.
p.m.
d.
p.d.

7 Hannah Whittington (Mother of No. 3)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

15 Elizabeth Whittington (Mother of No. 7. Cont. on chart No.)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d. Marlborough Co. N.C.

Jane Margaret Walter (Spouse of No. 1.)
b. 4/26/1818
p.b. S.C.
d. 7/3/1861
p.d. DeSoto, Miss.

CHAPTER TWO

JOHN MCREE, JR., AND MARTHA NEAVEL

John McRee, Jr. was born in South Carolina on March 2, 1788. His father Colonel John McRee, Sr. was born in 1767, in North Carolina, but moved to Marion County, South Carolina near the Pee Dee River. John, Sr. had only two children John, Jr. and Deborah.

After splitting the property John, Jr. married Martha Neavel. John was only 22 years of age when the indenture was signed with Deborah and Andrew Paul. He must have married soon thereafter because his first child was born on November 27, 1811. It must have been in 1810 also that John and Martha married.

Before listing their children, I believe you will be interested in the history of Martha Neavel. We have her bloodline in us also.

Neavel, the sur name, started a new trend in naming many McRee descendants. It was given to her first son but spelled Neville. Her third child, my great grandfather, was Neavel Ellison McRee, and he actually spelled his name that way as evidenced by his own hand in his Bible and in land transactions we found in the Clarke County, Mississippi Courthouse. The name is enough to give a genealogist a high fever and his relatives an argument that almost comes to blows. The name is spelled many different ways, Neavel, Neavil, Neville, Nevel, Nevil, Navel, Neval, Nivelle and on and on.

Ironically, Martha's real name was not Neavel! According to the will of Martha's grandmother Elizabeth Whittington, her daughter Hannah Whittington married Gidian Blackmon (Blackman) and had two daughters Rachel and Martha. Hannah's sister Rhoda married William Neavel who, after the death of Hannah and Mr. Blackmon, took the girls into his home and apparently adopted them since both used the Neavel name.

However, William Neavel's will speaks of "reputed" daughters.

Martha was heir to land and slaves from the will of William Neavel. Rhoda also made gains from her grandmother Elizabeth Whittington's will.

Isaac Neavel and his wife Rachel are not blood related to us at all, but it is important to note from his will that he gave most of his many acres of land and slaves to his son William Neavel.

It reads in part: (sic) "Item. I give and bequeath unto my son William Neavel one negro wench named Feebe, and one negro girl named grace, and negro named Bel and one negro Girl named Hannah, and one small girl child named Till, and another small girl named Rose, and negro fellow named Ben, and one small boy child named Ben, with all and Singular the rest of my Estate Rayel and Personal."

William Neavel was appointed executor and the will was signed on November 25, 1793.

William Neavel married Rhoda Whittington, who was the sixth child of Elizabeth Whittington. Hannah was the seventh child born about October 1805, and married Gidian Blackmon (Blackman).

Elizabeth Whittington's will states in part: (sic)

"Item I give and Bequeathe unto my Sone and Law Gidian Blackmon one Shilling to be paid to him out of my Estate by my Executors it being the last part of his Portion and it Beaing the Last Part of the Portion of Hannah His Wife Deceaces.

"Item I Give and Bequeathe unto my two Dauters Rachel Windham and Rhoda Neavel my trunk and wearring aparil to be Equally divided between them Both. Item I give and Bequeath unto my two grandauters Martha Whittington and Rachel Whittington dauters of Hannah Blackmon deseased one Small Negro Garl Named Bet to be Equally divided between them two and if either of the two Martha or Rachel shold dy without Issue to belong to the surviving one of them. I give and Bequeathe unto my Six Children that is to Say Francis Whittington, John Whittington, Nathaniel Whittington, Levi Whittington, Rachel Windham and Roda Neavel all and singular the rest of my Estate to be equally divided between them six."

This will was signed on October 16, 1805, with her "X" mark.

On July 14, 1816, William Neavel signed his will which I will quote here in its entirety: (sic)

"______________State of South Carolina

In the name of God Amen I William Neavel of the District of Marlborough in the Aforesaid State knowing the uncertain tenure of humain life do make this my Last Will and testament in the manner following that is to Say Fist I give devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife Rhoda Neavel one third part of all my Real and personal Estate to her and her heirs in fee simple Forever and the use of my houses and housel furniture undivided as long as she Doth live.

Second I give devise and Bequeath unto Rachel Crawford my Reputed Daughter one other Third of all my Estate both real and Personal for and during the time of her natural life and after her death to the heirs of her Boddy but if she shod die without heirs of her Boddy living at the time of death or Such heirs shod die without having attained the age of twenty one years and unmarried then I Give devise and bequeath the Same to my Wife and my friends James Crawford Junr and John Windham in trust during the life of my other reputed daughter Martha McRee the wife of John McRee for the use and Benefit of the said Martha and after the death of the said Martha my will and desire is that the Said Third Part of my Estate shall decend discharged of the said trust to the heirs of her Body

Third to my wife and my two friends James Crawford and John Windham I give devies and Bequeath the other Third part of my Real and Personal Estate for the use and benefit of the aforesaid Martha McRee which said third part of my Estate my wife and my two friends James Crawford and John Windham are to employ and use in such way as They shall think most expedient and Conducive to them In Trust of the said Martha Paying the yearly rents and Profits thereof to the said Martha or such person as they may appoint for her Sole and Seperate use without any control of her husband the Said John McRee and without the Said yearly and profits being in any manner liable to him the said John McRee's debts

Fourth, On the death of the said Martha McRee the trust Estate above devised to my wife and James Crawford and John Windham Shall cease and the Same Shall decend to the Heirs of the Body of the said Martha McRee but if the said Martha shoud Die without having any heirs of her body living at the time of her death or such Heirs should die under the age of twenty one years and unmarried then I Give devise and Bequeath the Said Third Part of my Eastate to the aforesaid Rachel Crawford and the heirs of her Body.

Fifth in Case it Shall so happen that Both the aforesaid Rachel Crawford and Martha McRee should die without having heirs of their Bodies or such heirs should die under the age of twenty one years of age and unmaried so that the Estate herein before devised to them can be possessed or enjoyed by neither them nor their lineal descendants then I Give and devise the Same to my nearest Collateral Kindred

Sixth Immediately after the discharge of all my Just Debts I desire that my Executrix and Executors Should Divide my Estate in the manner herein Before Discribed and put the Several Divisions Into the Possession of theirof their Respective Parts and I do hereby authorize my said Executrix and Executors and Vest in them full Complete and ample Powers to divide my soul Estate without the aid or interposition of any court of Law or Equety

"Lastly I nominate my wife Rhoda Neavel and James Crawford and John Windham my Executrix and Executors of this my last Will and Testament

"In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this fourteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Sixteen.

William Neavel (Seal)"

There were three witnesses, Heschiah Alison, Gadi Whittington, and Levi Windham. Recorded in Will Book A. Page 95, Case 1 Box 50, Recorded 7th Dec. 1816.

From the above will, one can determine that Martha and Rachel were adopted by both William and Rhoda Neavel. Also, it is quite evident that old William did not want John McRee to get his hands on any of his possessions.

Rhoda Neavel had a will as well. Notice the spelling of her last name in this will. She puts an "i" in it beginning the many derivatives of this name.

WILL OF RHODA NEAVIL

(sic) "I Rhoda Neavil being weak in body but in perfect mind and memory calling to mind that It is appointed for all women once to die I recommend my body to the earth and my soul to him who Give it my desire is first for my lawful debts all to be satisfied and my lawful heirs to be paid out of my bonds and notes and crop where collected. Secondly for the Good will and love which I have for my Sister Rachel Windham I give and bequeath unto her my Riding Chair and Gold Watch and five hundred dollars out of my estate.

"Thirdly I give and bequeath unto my brother John Whittington five hundred dollars. Also I give unto my brother Nathaniel Whittington five hundred dollars, Also I give unto my brother Levi Whittington ten dollars and To the heirs of my deceased brother Francis Whittington ten dollars and the heirs of my deceased Sister Hannah Blackman ten dollars. Also I give unto my nephew John Windham two hundred Dollars Also I give unto my nephew Levi Windham two hundred dollars.

Also I give to my nephew Thomas Windham two hundred dollars Also I give unto my niece Elizabeth Marsengale two Hundred dollars also to my niece Rhoda broach two hundred dollars also to my nephew Nathaniel Whittington Lenox two hundred dollars Also to my nephew Gradi Whittington fifty Dollars also to my niece Elizabeth Allison Fifty dollars also to my nephew Francis Whittington Fifty dollars, Also to my niece Jesse Shanks fifty dollars Also to my niece Ann cox fifty dollars Also to my nephew Nathaniel Whittington fifty dollars and to my niece Ann Whittington Fifty dollars and to my nephew James Whittington ten dollars and to my niece Hannah Murphey ten dollars and to my niece Elizabeth Dunnam ten dollars ten dollars to my nephews and nieces the children of my brother Levi Whittington also I give to my niece Martha McRee the tract of land I now live upon with another tract adjoining to it supposed to be two hundred acres and the half of my house and kitchen furniture to her her life time and at her death to the heirs of her body and if there should not be no heirs of her body to Rachel Crawford and to the heirs of her body. Also I give to Rachel Crawford three Head of mules my Riding horse and my Silver watch and my stock of Cattle and the half of my house and kitchen furniture tc her her life time and at her death to the heirs of her body and for the Justice that belongs man to man at my death I do freely deliverate and free all my Slaves by giving to them a tract of land known to be in the pocoson Swamp adjoining of the Dunnam land supposed to be one hundred and fifty acres more or less. I also give putter one horse mule five head of Cattle and twenty dollars to be paid to each one out of my crop and the ballance of my crop after my negroes are shoed Clothed and taxt the ballance of my crop shall return to my Executors and Executrix. I do here appoint my brother Nathaniel Whittington James Crawford John Windham Rachel Windham as my Exexutors and Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament as Witness my Hand and Seal this 4th day of June one Thousand Eight hundred and twenty.

Rhoda Neavil (L.S.)"

This interesting will is Recorded in Will Book A Page 116. It was recorded on August 3, 1820, Case 1 Box 15.

Permit me to again point out that Rhoda's will was recorded in 1820.

Ten years before this on April 18, 1810, John and Martha McRee sold some land to William Singletary. The deed reads as follows: (sic)

"This State of South Carolina know all men by their presents that I John McRee, Jr., of Marion District in the state aforesaid _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ of the sum of three thousand dollars to me paid by William J. Singletary of the state and district aforesaid have granted, bargained, sold and released and by their presents, grant, bargain, sell and release unto the said William J. Singletary, all that Plantation or Tract of land containing two tracts, one of which contains eight hundred and twenty acres, the other four hundred and eighty four acres both granted to Andrew Paul and John McRee, Jr., the seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and six. The said land by these present conveyed from the said John McRee, Jr. to the said William J. Singletary are _____ the _____ _____ of it. This Plantation contains all the houses included in the _____ and plot of said plot agreeable to their representation. Plantation in the said district on the _____ S. E. side of Great _____ River in Catfish which _____ the _____ side _____ _____ of said Catfish Creek both which form and marks as a complicated plot of the same to this _____ _____ together with all and _____; the right _____ _____ _____ and appurtinances to the said primises bringing or in _____ incident or appertaining to have and to hold and singular the primise the fore mentioned and to the said William J. Singletary, his heirs and assigns forever and _____ entirely _____ _____ _____ of heirs, Executor, and administrators _____ _____ _____ and forever _____ all and singular _____ the said primises unto the said William J. Singletary his heirs and assigns against my _____ heirs and against ever person who-so-ever lawfully claiming or to claim the balance or any part thereof _______ pf my hand and seal the fifthenth day of February the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ten and in the thirty fourth year of the Indepe dance of the United States of America, signed, sealed and delivered

in the present of John McRee Jr.

Henry C. Leyith

Darby H. Tweney

Joseph Chag

South Carolina I Joseph _____ the trustee of the _____ _______

Marion District here by certify unto all whom it may concern that Martha McRee the wife of the within said named John McRee did this day appear before me and upon her privately and separetely to me did declare she freely, voluntarily and without any _____ dread or fears of any pursuaveve persons whoever _____ releases and forever relenquish to the within named William J. Singletary _____ and assigns all her interest and states ____ also all the rights and claim of ______ of in so to all her singular the premises herein mentioned or released.

Martha McRee

Given under my hand and seal this 18 day of April 1810.

Jasper Tweetie"

Another paragraph on the original form is not sufficiently discernable to include here. I regret my inability to determine the words that should fit into the blank spaces. It is just impossible to read. I think the River mentioned in the sale is the "Great PeeDee River, but I cannot be certain.

This is not the sellout to remove to Mississippi. It came later after their last child William Charles McRee was born. William Charles was born February 9, 1836; therefore, their move was after that and could have been in 1839 enabling them to arrive in Clarke County, Mississippi in 1840.

Martha Neavel was born in 1792 in South Carolina. She married John McRee, Jr. about 1810 or 1811. She and John McRee, Jr. had the following children:

1. John Neville McRee b-9/27/1811 in S.C., d-4/25/1876 in Mississippi. He married Elizabeth Rogers whose parents were John and Rachel Rogers. His middle name may have been Neavel after his mother's adopted name, but all his decendants use Neville. John Neville and Elizabeth McRee had nine children. Many of their descendants are interested in genealogy today and I have visited and corresponded with some of them, one of which is William Neville McRee who lives in Schwarts, Louisiana. He advised that his father also a Neville, was called "Neb" all his life. John Neville is William Neville McRee's great grandfather.
2. Deborah b-1818 d-1906. She married John Bethea Rogers whose parents were Timothy Erasmus Rogers and Sarah Bethea. No doubt she is named after her father's only sister. (Note the seven years difference in the age of the first and second child). They had thirteen children and I have all their names.
3. Neavel Ellison McRee b-7/21/1820 d-7/4/1883 (See Chapter Three).
4. Thomas Richardson b-6/8/1824 d-2/25/1888. He married Anna Jane Bethea on April 8, 1853. They had fifteen children and I have all names and most dates.
5. Robert A. McRee b-1827 d-unknown. He married Susan F. Fitzgerald and she is buried in Aledo, Texas, where she died April 22, 1914. They had six children: Bob, Bill, George Franklin, Henry, Elizabeth and Molly. The Rev. Henry McRee lived in Aledo all his life and his son Charley lives there today at the age of 85.

6. Franklin H. McRee, b-12/8/1830 d-12/3/1905, married Nancy J. Covington (1835-1890) on January 17, 1855. They are both buried in Lilac Cemetery, Milam County, Texas, where they lived most of their lives after coming to Texas in a wagon train from Clarke County, Mississippi. I do not have a complete list of their children.

7. George Washington McRee b-8/6/1832 d-3/21/1908. He married Caroline Bethea (1840-1905) on June 9, 1853. Her parents were Thomas C. Bethea and Miranza Rogers. George and Caroline had twelve children who lived for the most part in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

8. William Charles McRee b-2/9/1836 d-10/30/1862. He was married to Mary Jane Rogers on October 23, 1854 in South Carolina by the Rev. Samuel Bethea in Marion County. They had three children: Timothy Lott, James R. and Anna Jane.

This indicates that after William Charles was eighteen years old he returned from Clarke County, Mississippi, to South Carolina and married. This was before the Civil War, of course, and pictures of visits between the Rogers family and the Bethea family come to my mind when I look at these dates. It would certainly be interesting to know how William Charles and Mary Jane Rogers became acquainted and married when they lived a great distance apart.

William Charles enlisted in Company G. 46th Miss. Infantry C.S.A. on April 24, 1862. Wounded, he was sent to the hospital on Sept. 6, 1862 and then sent home to die. Capt. Gilbert Stuart of Atlanta, Georgia, accompanied him to his home where William Charles died on October 30, 1862 in Smith County, Mississippi. Capt. Stuart later married Mary Jane (Rogers) McRee in Atlanta in 1866.

All the children of John and Martha McRee were born in South Carolina. They were a prosperous family and apparently close knit.

After John McRee, Sr. died, at an undetermined date, some times recorded in 1809, I am convinced that he was deceased at the time the inventory was taken June 2, 1803; we have records that he did die intestate and leaving two children. This is recorded in Marion County, South Carolina, in deed book E, pages 207, 208, and 209. Also recorded is an indenture dated July 19, 1810 between John McRee, Jr. and Andrew Paul and wife (Deborah) quoted above that split up their father's estate in so far as land holdings.

Andrew and Deborah received all the land, seven hundred and forty acres, situated in the District of Marion, S. C., on the east of Pee Dee River lying between Brucker's Ferry and the property line on the river. This was a part of eight hundred acres granted to Francis Leouce on December 17, 1736 by the King of England. They also received another tract of land containing five hundred ninety-six (596) acres which adjoined the other tract but was on the Wahee Marshes and was part of land granted to Josias Alston on March 14, 1767, containing sixteen hundred acres. These two tracts were Deborah's portion of her father's real estate.

John McRee, Jr's. portion was thirteen hundred and four acres lying on the eastside of the Pee Dee River and near Catfish Creek which adjoined the tract of land that was originally granted to Josias Alston. John and Martha were already residing on this property. At this location, Martha and John McRee reared their eight children, or at least they were all born here before moving to Mississippi.

We do not know the exact date, but John and Martha McRee moved to Clarke County, Mississippi after 1836. The descendants of their last son William Charles, born February 9, 1836, say that he was born in South Carolina. Descendants of Robert A. McRee claim he was born in Alabama in 1827. It is possible that they moved to Alabama for a short time and then went back to South Carolina, but I do not think that is the case.

Where was their home from April 1810 and 1836? We cannot be sure, of course, but we do know that they eventually settled in Clarke County, Mississippi, about 1840. We know exactly where they settled, just a few miles east of De Soto, Mississippi, and know that most of their children either came with them or followed shortly, at least they all moved to Mississippi with their own families.

John McRee, Jr. died on February 14, 1854, after having lived 65 years, 11 months and 12 days according to his tombstone located on the old Clark McDonald farm in a bend of the Chickasahay River, which is west of the McRee Plantation. We must give credit to Dixie McRee Streeter who braved the brush and rattlesnakes and found the grave of John, Jr. (I saw it myself on June 14, 1983.)

Martha (Neavel) McRee was alive in 1860 when the ten year census was taken. Her name appears in the household of her son Neavel Ellison McRee. It is believed she died the following year in 1861. We have yet to establish her gravesite, but we think she is buried in the same cenetery as her son, the Newhope Cemetery, which has now grown up in timber making graves difficult to locate.

The 1850 census of Clarke County, Mississippi, shows a female named Ann, 15 years old. She would have been born in 1835. We think she was a slave.

The history of Clarke County, Mississippi is quite interesting. First claimed by Spain, and then France, later England and finally the United States, Clarke County has flown the flag of four different countries at one time or the other. In 1785 Georgia claimed Clarke County as part of Bourdon County in the Georgia Territory which included Alabama and Mississippi. The United States claimed Clarke County in 1778 from England. On May 10, 1800 congress passed an act to give that part of the Georgia Territory to the Mississippi Territory. In 1830 the treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek was signed with the Choctaw Indians, who had to give way to the white man and were moved out to the Oklahoma Territory. Their move along with the Chickasaw was known as the "Trail of Tears" because many tears were shed on thei trek by foot from their native land to Oklahoma.

Clarke County was formed on December 23, 1833, due to this Dancing Rabbit Creek Treaty and was named for Judge Joshua G. Clarke, a judge for Claiborne County and also a State Supreme Court Judge. Judge Clarke drowned July 23, 1828 at Port Gibson, Mississippi.

The first county seat was established in Enterprise, Mississippi. For some unknown reason it was moved to Quitman, a town named for General John A. Quitman, who was an officer in the Mexican War, Second Chancellor of the State and later became the Governor of Mississippi. The area of Quitman was first owned by John J. Watts, who sold the land to settlers except for the land where the courthouse now stands, which he donated to the town of Quitman for the courthouse, and this could be the reason the county seat was moved from Enterprise.

The first newspaper was printed in 1851 in Quitman. The press, however, was destroyed during the Civil War by Sherman, as well as the courthouse and most of the records.

Enterprise was formed in 1834 and was founded by John J. McRae who later became governor of Mississippi. He navigated the first steamboat in 1842 from Lake Ponchartrain up the Chickasawhay River to Enterprise.

In the early 1860's because of the Civil War, Enterprise became the state capitol; it was later removed to Meridian and then back to Jackson. When General Sherman came into the county in 1863 the courthouse at Quitman was burned as well as Enterprise and much of the surrounding area.

Other Clarke County towns include Stonewall, Mississippi, which was named for Stonewall Jackson. According to legend, Shubuta means spoiled meal in the local Indian language. It is said that an Indian was carrying corn to the mill to be pounded into meal. Returning home walking a log he fell into the water knowing full well his meal was spoiled. He named the town Shubuta.

Carmichael was first named Maxville and later named for Monroe Carmichael. Beaver Dam, Mississippi, was named for the beavers in Beaver Dam Creek. Sumrall was named for the Sumrall family, the first family to live there. Pierce Springs was named for the Pierce family who owned the spring. This was the oldest settle in the eastern part of the county. Crandall was named for Walter Crandall. Theadville was named for Hamilton Thead. Langsdale was named for John H. Lang. Pachuta was named by the Indians and meant Possumm Creek. DeSoto was named for Hernando DeSoto. Snell was named for Lemuel Snelgrove. Crane was named for the first Crane family who lived there. Horne was named for Col. Horne Linton. Pine Ridge was named thusly because of the ridge of pine trees upon which it was situat

Other towns of Clarke County include: Basic City, Brewer, Junction City, Vossburg, Knight's Valley, Barnett, Hale, Harmony, Elwood, Fairhope, Middleton, Hurrican Creek and Devos.

Bladen Co., North Carolina Book 1

In the Name of God "Amen"

I william McRee of Bladen County in the State of North Carolina, planter Knowing it is appointed for all men Once to die and being infirm in body but of sound mind and memory & c do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows —

I do order that all my Just debt be paid and with what worldly goods the almighty has been pleased to bless me. I leave in manner and form as follows.

First I leave to my loving Wife Margaret McRee the use and full possession of the plantation I now live on with all the stock of every kind for the use of herself and two sons not yet grown to mans estate with my house hold furniture with her choice of all my Negro Wenches with one childs part of all my other Negroes. provided that at her death her said childs part shall be equally divided amongst her children except the above Wench which she may leave to the person that is the most tender and kind to her old age.

I leave to my loving Son Griffith John McRee one piece of land in the North east of North West River containing three hundred and fifty acres and I think now he has a deed of gift for it with the one fourth of all my negroes of what number one negro boy named Will is to be included

I leave to my loving son James McRee the plantation I now live on provided his mother is not to be dispossessed of what part she occupies during her life time, which line begins at the ? on Asfords upper line ? back to another piece of land my property then that line to James Bradleys land along that line to Mrs. Flanders up R. Raifords line West lands. May contain about 800 acres more or less also one fourth of all my negroes.

I leave to my loving son John McRee one piece of land Joining Joseph Singletarys lower line beginning I think at orrales but then up sd Josephs line to a Lightwood stake thence along to Atmands line and Stills line to a Hickory near Stills house thence to a White oak near James Manhams field down that line to R. Rayfords line till it Joins with his Brother James line the fourth of this piece is to begin at the above Jamess lower line down the River to any persons on the River bank it will be about 72 poles front there cross back said 45 West allowing for the variation of the compass to R. Rayfords this peice of land may contain about 400 to 500 acres more or less. Also one fourth of my negroes provided that said lands and negroes shall not be delivered to either of my two last mentioned sons until they come to the age of twenty three unless it cannot exn

I leave to my grand son William Singletary one Negro Wench Named lealle(?) and child Frank which Wench was delivered to my daughter Sarah in her life time with one other young negro at the division of my Estate by my Executors. a piece of land joining James Moorheads containing 200 acres and a piece of land near Thomas McRy's land containing one hundred acres with Tan yard and l. s. with my two stills to be sold if to any advantage to pay my debts. 640 acres of land for two & c. Another peice North east side plantation branch to be made use or disposed of as my Executor shall see fit at my loving wife's death. her childs part of the Negroes the above wenches excepted with the stock of every kind and household furniture is equally to be divided amongst my children also one negro fellow named King a negro girl named Hester with Will as above shall be divided with the rest of my negroes but Will" shall be of the number of my son Griffith John's Lot.

And I do hereby constitute my loving Wife Margaret McRee my Son Griffith John McRee, Joseph Singletary my Executorix and Executors to this my last Will and Testament revoking all former Wills or Testaments by me made allowing this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

Given under my hand and seal this 10th day of January 1789.

William McRee (seal)

Bladen Co., North Carolina Book 1

In the Name of God "Amen"

This 3rd day of may 1798 I Samuel McRee being in perfect health of body and of sound mind and memory but calling unto mind that it is appointed for all to die do make and ? this my last will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say

It is my Will and desire that all my Just debts be paid by my Executors herein after named.

I give and bequeath to my loving wife Mary McRee one third of all my estate both Real and personal which I die possessed of to her and her heirs forever.

I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah Gibbs Wife of John Gibbs Ten dollars.

I give and bequeath unto my other children to wit James William John Alex and Margaret McRee all the remainder part of my estate both Real and Personal to be equally divided between them share and shar alike.

And lastely I do constitute and appoint my loving Wife Mary McRee Executrix and William Bryan Esqr of the Great Swamp and James Moorhead Exicutors of this my last Will and Testament. revoking all other wills and Testaments heretofore made by me declareing this to be my last Will and Testament.

In the presence of us
Tist A White
A. S. White

Samuel McRee (seal)

Bladen Co., North Carolina Book 1

The last will and Testament of Robert McRee who being of perfect and sound memory but unfirm in body and the time of my departure drawing near in the first place I give my soul to my god who gave it in full hope of a Joyful resurrection of my body at the last day and my body to be decently buried and what it has pleased god to bless me with of this worlds goods I do dispose of tgem in the following manner viz

If it shall please god that my beloved Wife Jane should survive me. I desire that nothing of what little estate I leave behind me shall be taken from her during her life but that she may have a comfortable living out of the same and after her decease to be divided in the following manner all my lands my negro Dick Cattle horses and stock of every kind furniture Working tools and everything that I do possess be valued and whatever it is valued at to be divided into Six parts and each of my children to have their equal part. My son Williams part I desire that my grand son Robert McRee do draw his part only ten pounds out of my Grand son Robert McRee son to William McRee be given to my grand daughter Helen McRee and my daughter Elizabeths part I desire that her son John May be schooled out of it my daughter Sarah Christians part to be equally divided between her and my grand son Robert Cheshire My daughter Susannah My daughter Jean Guthrie my daughter Alace each to have theirs equal divided according to each ones part.

And I do desire that my sons William McRee William Cheshire and William Guthrie see this my Will and desire profected and I do hereby declare this to be my last Will and testament disannulling and disallowing and making void all or any other will or wills made or profected before

In testimony whereof I have set my hand and seal this Nineth day of February one thousand seven hundred and ninety three - ~~1973~~.

1793

Signed Sealed and delivered
In presence of
Richard Salter
Jno Ellis

Robert McRee (seal)

Sampson Co., North Carolina Deed Book 2 page 85

William McRees Will

In the Name of God Amen I William McRee of Goshen Settlement County of Duplin and Provence of North Carolina Being Weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory do make and appoint this my last Will and tistament in manner and ways as Follows. Vizt first I do surrender my soul to God that gave it in Hope & c and my Body to be decently buried at the discreation of my Executors and as for what Wordly goods god hath endowed me with I do Order first of all that my lawfull debts be paid and fully satisfied. And for what of my worldly substance Remains I do Order to be Disposed of in way and manner as Follows. First I do Order and bequeath to my Dear son John McRee Six merchantable Cows and Calves the same to be delivered to him when he comes in to the Province to demand them likewise to my dear son James McRee five shellings Starling likewise to my son William McRee five shellings Starling.

Item to my dear son Robert McRee Five shellings Starling Also to my dear Daughter Sarah McRee (alias Smith) Five shellings Starling Also to my dear Daughter Alice McRee alias Williams five shellings Starling One two year old Heufer to my Gran son William Williams and One two year Old Heufer to my Grand daughter Dortha Williams

Item I do leave and Bequeath to my dear Son Samuel McRee the Plantation I now live upon Containing Five Hundred Acres of land as in the Patant mentioned By him and his Successors to be enjoyed Forever Item with what Horses and mares and Cattle that he now Possosses I do Order Six more Cows and Calves to be Added thereunto and One Feather Bed and Furniture and his share of the Furniture Belonging to the House

Item I leave and bequeath to my dear daughter Susanna McRee all my money that now in the County when my debts is first paid together with all the Remaining part of my black Cattle Young and old with the Horses and meares that she now Passesses and One Feather Bed and Furniture with One half of the house hold furniture Except the other Beds and furniture. But she now being in a weak and low condition and more likely to die than live so that if she dies with the present sickness that she is now under I do Order that her part shall be and Remain in the hands of my dear son William McRee to be disposed of as he thinks proper

And lastly I do here nominate and Appoint my dear son William McRee and my son in Law John Smith to be the Executors of this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby disannul all former Wills and Testaments that might have been By me made heretofore. And I do declare this to be my Last Will and Testament. In Witness When of I do hereby hereunto Set my Hand and seal this thirtieth 30th Day of March One thousand Seven hundred and fifty One 1751.

Signed Sealed and
Delivered in the Presence of us
Sarah McAlexander
William Kenan
Elizabeth Chambers

William McRee (seal)

If son John was not in the Province of N.C., where was he? S.C., Ireland, ???

Mrs. [illegible] W. Coke
2125 Donington Cove
Germantown, TN. 38138

3-13-87
(Friday)

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WILL OF

WILLIAM HEAVEL

State of South Carolina

In the name of God Amen I William Heavel of the District of Marlborough in the Aforesaid State knowing the uncertain tenure of humain life do make this my Last Will and testament in the manner following that is to Say Fist I give devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife Rhoda Heavel one third part of all my Real and personal Estate to her and her heirs in fee Simple forever and the use of my houses and housel furniture undivided as long as she Doth live. Second I Give devise and Bequeath unto Rachel Crawford my Reputed Daughter one other Third of all my Estate both real and Personal for and during the time fo her natural life and after her death to the heirs of her Boddy but if she Shod die without heirs of her Boddy living at the time of death or Such heirs shod die without having attained the age of twenty one years and unmarried then I Give devise and bequeath the Same to my Wife and my friends James Crawford Junr and John Windham in trust during the life of my other reputed daughter Martha McRee the wife of John McRee for the use and Benefit of the said Martha and after the death of the said Martha my will and Desire is that the Said Third Part of my Estate shall decend discharged of the said trust to the heirs of her Body

Third to my wife and my two friends James Crawford and John Windham I Give devise and Bequeath the other Third Part of my Real and Personal Estate for the use and benefit of the aforesaid Martha McRee which said third part of my Estate my wife and my two freinds James Crawford and John Windham are to employ and use in such way as They shall think most expedient and Conducive to them In trust of the said Martha Paying the yearly rents and Profits thereof to the said Martha or such person as they may appoint for her Sole and

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Office of Judge of Probate
Marlboro County
Bennettsville, S. C. 29512

WILL OF WILLIAM NEAVEL -- PAGE 2

Seperate use without any control of her husband the said John McRee and without the said yearly and profits being in any manner liable to his the said John McRee's debts

Fourth On the death of the said Martha McRee the trust Estate above devised to my wife and James Crawford and John Windham Shall Cease and the Same Shall decend to the Heirs of the Body of the said Martha McRee but if the said Martha Should Die without having any heirs of her body living at the time of her death or such Heirs Should die under the age of twenty one years and unmarried then I Give devise and Bequeath the Said Third Part of my Estate to the aforesaid Rachel Crawford and the heirs of her Body.

Fifth in Case it Shall so happen that Both the aforesaid Rachel Crawford and Martha McRee Should die without having heirs of their Bodies or Such heirs should die under the age of twenty one years of age and unmaried So that the Estate herein before devised to them can be pofsefsed or enjoyed by neither them nor their lineal descendants then I Give and devise the Same to my nearest Collateral kindred

Sixth Immediately after the discharge of all my Just Debts I desire that my Executrix and Executors Should Divide my Estate in the manner herein Before Discribed and put the Several Divisions Into the Pofsefsion of their Respective Parts and I do hereby authorize my said Executrix and Executors and Vest in them full Complete and ample Powers to divide my soul Estate without the aid or interposition of any Court of Law or Equety

Lastly I nominate my wife Rhoda Neavel and James Crawford and John Windham my Executrix and Executors of this my last Will and Testament

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this fourteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Sixteen

William Neavel (Seal)

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Marlboro County

WILL OF WILLIAM NEAVEL PAGE 3

[illegible]

[illegible]

Signed Sealed published and
declared by the above Named
William Neavel as and for his
last Will and testament in
the presence of us who in His
presence and at his request
have subscribed our names
hereunto

Witnefs

Hezekiah Alison
Gadi Whittington
Levi Windham

Recorded in Will Book A.
Page 95 Case 1 Box 50
Recorded 7th Dec. 1816

Wm. Easterling Ordy., M.D.

Office of Judge of Probate
Marlboro County
Bennettsville, S. C. 29512

(URS)

[illegible]
Laurens, S.C.

I Rhoda Neavil being weak in body but in perfect mind and memory
calling to mind that It is appointed for all women once to die I
recommmend my body to the earth and my Soul to him who give it- my
desire is first for my lawful debts all to be satisfied and my lawful
heirs to be paid out of my bonds and notes and crop when collected.
Secondly, for the good will and love which I have for my Sister Rachel
Windham I give and bequeath unto her my Riding Chair and Gold watch
and five hundred dollars out of my estate. Thirdly I give and bequeath
unto my brother John Whittington five hundred dollars. Also I give unto
my brother Nathaniel Whittington five hundred dollars, also I give
unto my brother Levi Whittington ten dollars and To the heirs of my
deceased brother Francis Whittington ten dollars and to the heirs of
Blackmon?
my deceased Sister hannah blackman ten dollars. Also I give unto my
nephew John Windham two hundred Dollars also I give unto my nephew
Levi Windham two hundred dollars also I give to my nephew Thomas Windham tow hundred dollars. Also I give unto my niece Elizabeth Marsengile
two Hundred dollars also to my niece Rhoda broach two hundred dollars
also to my nephew Nathaniel Whittington Senior two hundred dollars
also to my nephew Gadi Whittington fifty Dollars also to my niece
Elizabeth Allison fifty dollars also to my nephew Francis Whittington
Fifty dollars, also to my niece Jefsy Shanks fifty dollars also to my
niece ann cox fifty dollars Also to my nephew Nathaniel Whittington
fifty dollars and to my niece Ann Whittington Fifty dollars and to my
nephew James Whittington ten dollars. and to my neice hannah Murphy
ten dollars, and to my niece Elizabeth Dunnam ten dollars ten dollars
to my nephews and nieces the children of my brother Levi Whittington
also I give to my niece Martha McRe the tract of land I now live upon
with another tract adjoining to it supposed to be (two hundred acres)
and the half of my house and kitchen furniture To her her life time and
at her death to the heirs of her body and if there should not be no
heirs of her body to Rachel Crawford and to the heirs of her body also
I give to Rachel Crawford three head of mules my Riding horse and my
Silver Watch and my stock of cattle and the half of my house and kitchen

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furniture to her her life time and at her death to the heirs of Her body/and for the Justice that belongs man to man at my death I do freely deliberate and free all my slaves by giving of them a tract of land known to ly in the pocoson Swamp adjoining of the dunnam land supposed to be one hundred and fifty acres more or lefs I also give putter one horse mule five head of cattle and twenty dollars to be paid to each one out of my crop and the ballance of my crop after my negroes are Shoed clothed and taxt the ballance of my crop shall return to my Executors and Executrix. I do here appoint my brother Nathaniel Whittington James Ceawford John Windham Rachel Windham- as my Executors and Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament as witnefs my hand & Seal this 4th day of June one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

Rhoda Neavel (L.S.)

Signed in the presence of

Charles Irby

Wm. Carlofs

William Barton

1820. June 4.

Sol Conner 1984 Marion Co sister

John Jr

To Mrs. [illegible] W. Cole
2125 [illegible] Cove
[illegible] 3813

MRS J. C SMITH
135 S. PARK STREET
ROSELLE, ILL.
60172

(Helen Rogers Smith
[illegible]
Deborah McRee Rogers
(John Bertie Rogers) JUNIOR

The following Indenture made the 19th day of July 1810 between John McRee, Jr. and Andrew Paul and wife Deborah. A mutual agreement of the partition of lands of John McRee of Marion District, South Carolina that on his death (died intestate) leaving two children as the only heirs as follows: John McRee, Jr. and Deborah Paul. This agreement is recorded in Clerk of Court's Office, Marion County, S.C. in Deed Book E, pages 207, 208, 209.

The following is my transcription of the agreement but there are many words and/or names that I was unable to determine so am leaving these blank or some could be spelled wrong.

Cox died 1803
2 Jrs 1806
John Jr 1811

~~4th Dept 1810~~

"John McRee, Junr.)
&) South Carolina
Andrew Paul & Wife)

(1810)

This inddnture made the nineteenth day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten between John McRee, Junr. of the one part and Andrew Paul and Deborah, his wife, of the other part. Whereas John McRee of Pee Dee and State aforesaid, lately died intestate leaving the said John McRee, Junr. and the said Deborah Paul his only children and heirs and leaving several Tracts of Land. And Whereas the said John McRee, Junr. and the said Andrew Paul and Deborah, his wife, have agreed to make a partition of said land by their own mutual consent with the aid of the following Commissioners by them mutually chosen namely: Lewis Harell, Lemual Bryant, and Thomas Godbold by these presents make a partition of the said lands descend to them as aforesaid in manner and form following that is to say, the said Andrew Paul and Deborah, his wife, shall have for their part a portion of said land to which the sa became entitled to aforesaid all that Tract of Land situated in the District of Marion and State aforesaid on the East of Pee Dee lying between Burch Brucker's Ferry and the Whites line on said river and containing Seven Hundred and Forty acres be the same more or less being part of a Tract of Land of Eight Hundred acres granted to Francis Lesesne Lecuce on the 16th of December 1736 and also one other Tract of Land containing Five Hundred Ninety Six acres to the same more or less adjoining the above Tract of Land on Pee Dee and lyi the Whites Hanee Marshes it being part of Tract of Land Granted to Josias Alston Sixteen Hundred acres on the 14th day of MAR. 1767 and conveyed to the said Andre Paul by the saif John McRee in his lifetime is to be considered as the full share or portion of the said Deborah in the Real Estate of her Said Father. To have and to hold the two Tracts of Land above designated with the appurtances to the said Andrew Paul and Deborah, his wife, and the heirs of the said Deborah in fee simple and according to Law and the said John McRee, Junr. shall have for his part or portain of the said land received as ~~agreement~~ all that plantation or Tract of Land Where on the said John McRee resided in h lifetime and at the time of his death contaning Thirteen Hundred and Four acres. The same more or less being in the District of Marion and State aforesaid lying on the East side of Pee Dee River and hear Catfish and adjoining the above described Tract of Land Granted to Josias Alston. To have and to hold the last mentioned ~~named~~ Tract of Land o Thirteen Hundred and Four acres with the appurtananees unto them ~~the~~ said John McRee, Junr., his heirs, and assigns severally and divided from the part of the sai Andrew Paul and Deborah, his wfie, as aforesaid And is considered to b the full share or portion of the said John McRee, Junr. in the Real Estate of his Fathe In Witness Whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably set their ~~names~~ hand and Seals the Day and Year above written.

Sealed and Delivered
in presence of
W. G. Singletary
Jno. McPhaul

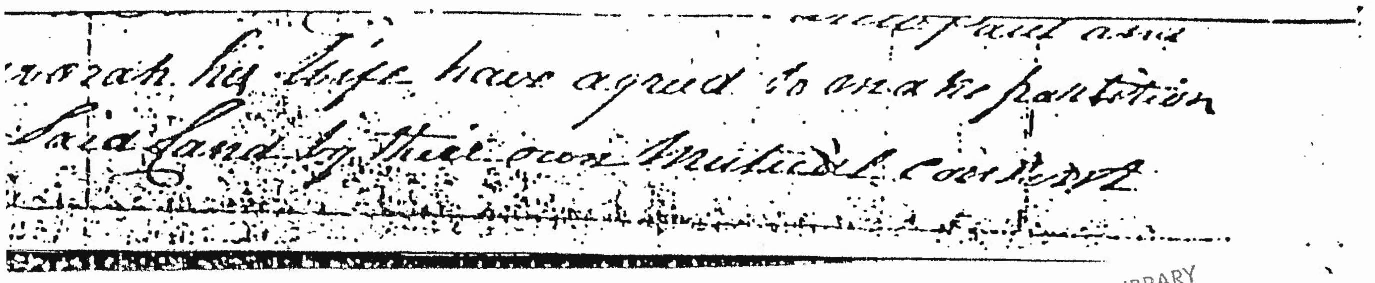
Jno. McRee, Junr.
Andrew Paul"

Could the minute

14th July, 1810

Transcribed February 14, 1977

by → JOHN C. HENAGAN



...Paul and
...orah his Wife have agreed to make partition
Said land by their own Mutual consent

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Volume IX, No. 2 Spring 1981

Marion District Minute Book of the Ordinary
pages 76 - 79

1803 March 10
This day Granted Citation to Andrew Paul and Patrick Donnelly on the Estate & Effects which were of John McRee Senr late of Catfish Decd.

1803 May 9
Letters of administration to Andrew Paul and Patrick Donnelly on the Estate and Effects which were of John McRee, late of Catfish Deceased.

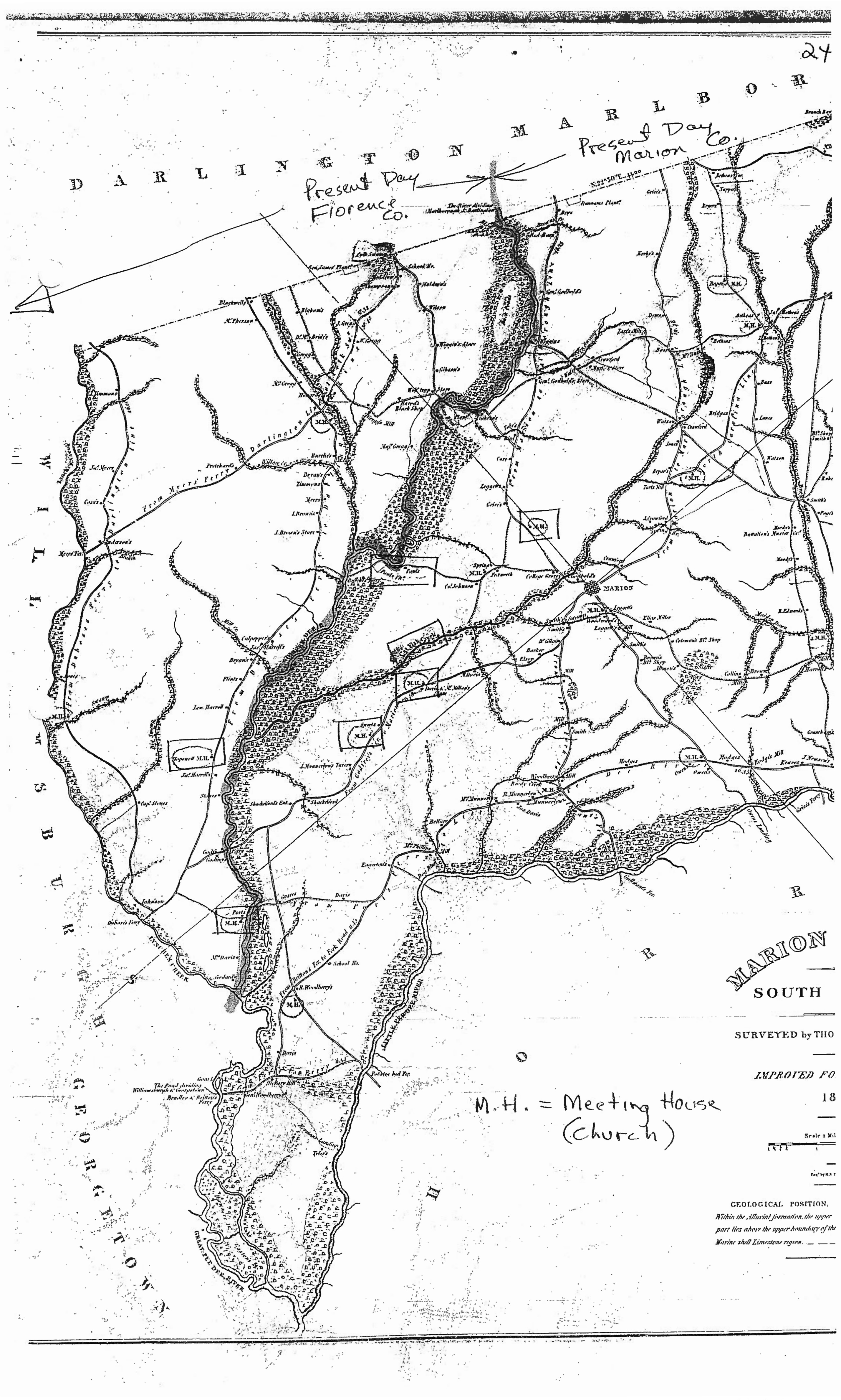
1803 October 3
Granted letters of Guardianship to John McRee Guardian for Thomas Gainey minor aged about fifteen years Son of Stephen Gainey late of this District decd.

1804 Jan 13
Citation to Martha Taylor & John McCree to admr. on the Estate and Effects of Richard Taylor of said District deceased.

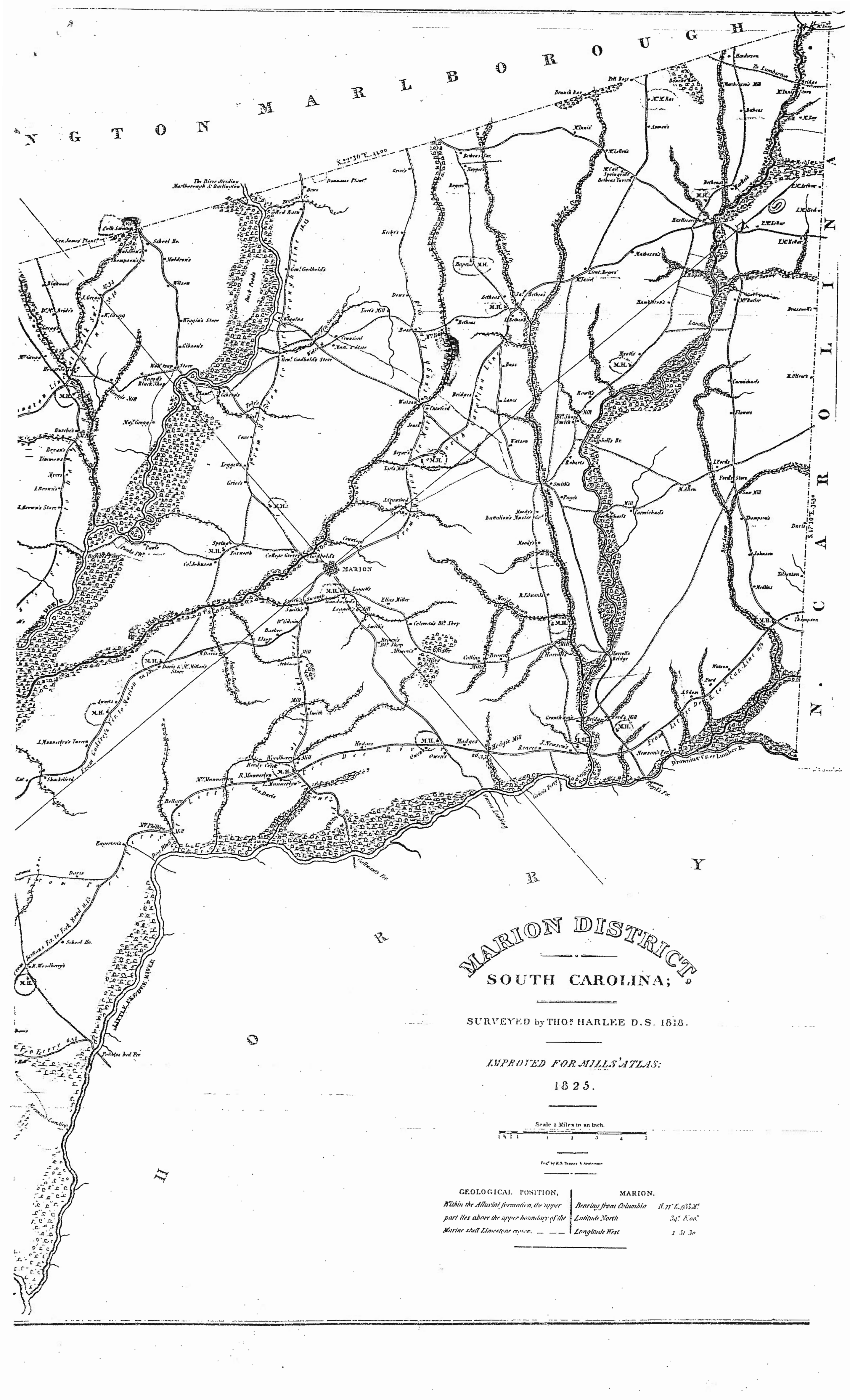
1804 May 4
Qualified Stephen Shackelford & James McRee admrs. of the Goods and Effects of Doctor Thomas T. Wickham late of said District deceased.

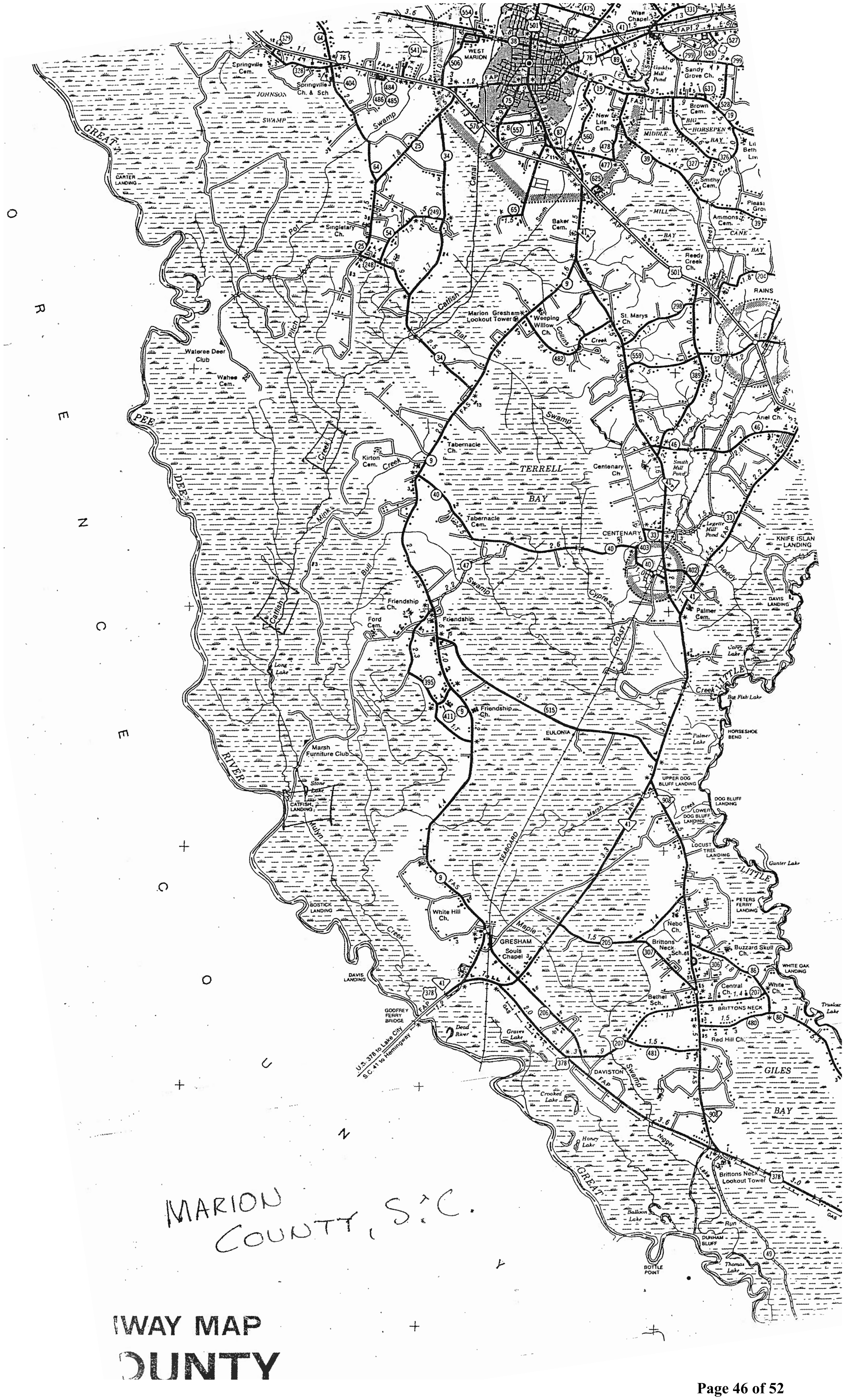
John McRee Sr. of Marion Co., S.C. was dead by 1903.

"Catfish" is not on any map that I have been able to find of Marion Co. But "Catfish Creek" is and runs through the center of the county

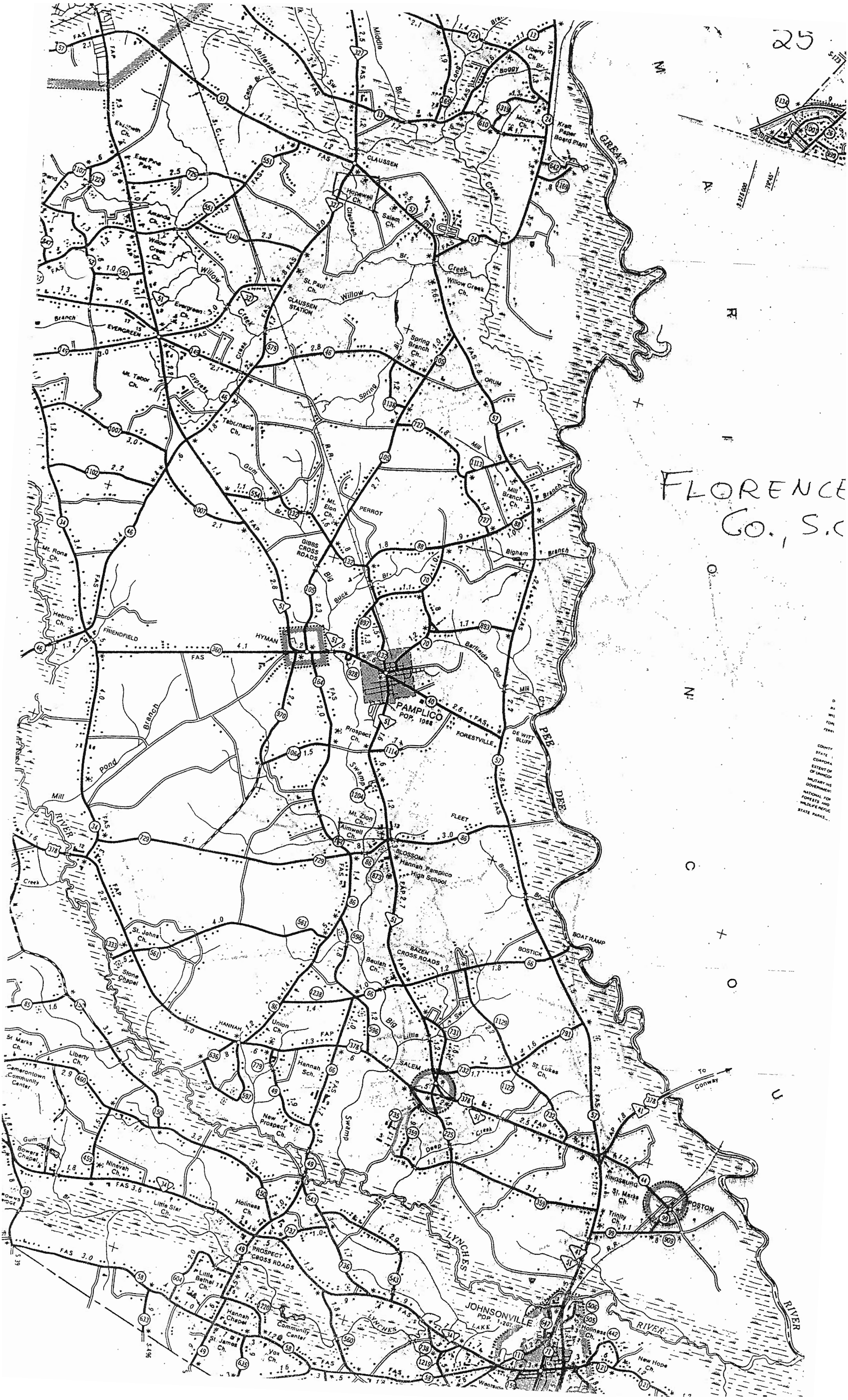

24
DARLINGTON
MARLBORO
Present Day Florence Co.
Present Day Marion Co.
The River dividing Marlborough & Darlington
WILLIAMSBURG
GEORGETOWN
MARION
Great Pedee River
Little Pedee River
Lynche's Creek
MARION
SOUTH
SURVEYED by THO
IMPROVED FO
18
Scale
GEOLOGICAL POSITION,
Within the Alluvial formation, the upper part lies above the upper boundary of the Marine shell Limestone region.

M.H. = Meeting House (Church)


MARLBOROUGH
N. CAROLINA
MARION
MARION DISTRICT
SOUTH CAROLINA;
SURVEYED by THOS HARLEE D.S. 1818.
IMPROVED FOR MILLS' ATLAS:
1825.
Scale 2 Miles to an Inch.
GEOLOGICAL POSITION,
Within the Alluvial formation, the upper part lies above the upper boundary of the Marine shell Limestone region.
MARION.
Bearing from Columbia N. 77° E. 93½ M.
Latitude North 34° 8' 00"
Longitude West 1 51 30
LITTLE PEDEE RIVER
Drowning Cr. or Lumber R.


WEST MARION
Springville Cem.
Springville Ch. & Sch
JOHNSON
SWAMP
GREAT
PEE
DEE
RIVER
CARTER LANDING
O R E N C E C O U N T Y
Singletary Ch.
Wateree Deer Club
Wahee Cem.
Catfish
Pitch
Mink
Bull
Long Lake
Marsh Furniture Club
Stone Lake
CATFISH LANDING
BOSTICK LANDING
DAVIS LANDING
GODFREY FERRY BRIDGE
U.S. 378 to Lake City
S.C. 41 to Hemingway
Marion Gresham Lookout Tower
Weeping Willow Ch.
Baker Cem.
Canal
Smith
St. Marys Ch.
Catfish
Flat
Swamp
Tabernacle Ch.
Kirton Cem.
Tabernacle Cem.
TERRELL
BAY
Centenary Ch
CENTENARY
Friendship Ch.
Ford Cem.
Friendship
Friendship Ch.
EULONIA
COAST
SEABOARD
Cypress
Marsh
White Hill Ch.
GRESHAM
Souls Chapel
Maple
DAVISTON
Graves Lake
Dead River
Crooked Lake
Honey Lake
Balloon Lake
BOTTLE POINT
DUNHAM BLUFF
Thomas Lake
Brittons Neck Lookout Tower
Wise Chapel
Gaddys Mill Pond
Sandy Grove Ch.
Brown Cem.
BIG
HORSEPEN
BAY
MIDDLE
New Life Cem.
Smithy Cem.
MILL
BAY
Ammons Cem.
CANE
Reedy Creek Ch.
RAINS
Ariel Ch.
Smith Mill Pond
Legette Mill Pond
KNIFE ISLAND LANDING
DAVIS LANDING
Palmer Cem.
Reedy
Creek
Carey Lake
LITTLE
Big Fish Lake
HORSESHOE BEND
Palmer Lake
UPPER DOG BLUFF LANDING
DOG BLUFF LANDING
LOWER DOG BLUFF LANDING
LOCUST TREE LANDING
Gunter Lake
PETERS FERRY LANDING
Nebo Ch.
Brittons Neck Sch.
Buzzard Skull Ch.
WHITE OAK LANDING
Central Ch.
White Ch.
Bethel Sch.
BRITTONS NECK
Red Hill Ch.
Truelove Lake
GILES
BAY
Nigger
Lake
Run
GAS
FAP
FAS
IWAY MAP
UNTY

MARION
COUNTY, S.C.


25
FLORENCE
Co., S.C.
CLAUSSEN
PAMPLICO
POP. 1068
HYMAN
FRIENDFIELD
GIBBS CROSS ROADS
PERROT
FORESTVILLE
DE WITT BLUFF
BLOSSOM
Hannah Pamplico High School
BAZEN CROSS ROADS
SALEM
KINGSBURG
POSTON
PROSPECT CROSS ROADS
JOHNSONVILLE
EVERGREEN
CLAUSSEN STATION
GREAT PEE DEE RIVER
LYNCHES RIVER
MARION COUNTY
To Conway
Kraft Paper Board Plant
BOAT RAMP

]

THE CLARKE COUNTY
TRIBUNE

FEATURE

Section B
Thursday
January 12, 1984

Sesquicentennial

The McRee's

By: MRS. DIXIE LEE MCREE STREETER

In 1840 in Marlboro County, South Carolina, John and Martha Neavel McRee, hereinafter referred to as the John McRees, owned a large plantation with 17 slaves and kept one free female colored person between the ages of 55 and 100; but for some reason, in late 1841 or early 1842, they, along with all of their children and their families, formed a wagon train and headed toward Mississippi, coming through Alabama, to Clarke County, settling in the area which radiates out from DeSoto.

It is believed that some of the Bethea and Rogers families came with them also as there were at least six of their children who married Betheas or Rogers. The Betheas had lived close to the McRees in South Carolina. Likewise, there were many marriages of Rogers and Betheas. Another South Carolina neighbor, John McQuaig, came at a later time.

The John McRees with their younger sons; Thomas, Robert who later married someone named Susan E., Franklin who later married Nancy J. Covington, George who later married Caroline Bethea and William who later married Mary Jane Rogers; settled close to the James Barber family in a vicinity where the George Knight family had lived at one time, probably on the east side of the Chickasawhay River about two or three miles

memory of John McQuaig who died on the 4th of August A.D. 1855 aged 71 years. The deceased was a native of Scotland and immigrated to North Carolina and thence to South Carolina, where he remained, until two years previous to his death, when he immigrated to this place; for many years he had been a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and died manifesting a full assurance of true happiness beyond the grave." This tombstone is engraved with beautiful script writing and is the most beautiful that this writer has even seen. This cemetery, thought to be called the old McQuaig cemetery, is supposed to be on what was once the old McQuaig place.

In 1860, John Neville McRee, oldest son of the John McRees, and his family were listed as living in Quitman. He had now acquired real estate valued at $3,600.00 Therefore, the past ten years had been prosperous for him.

Thomas Richardson McRee, third oldest son of the John McRees, was living on a farm just five farms over from his brother, Neveal Ellison McRee. He and his wife are listed as having six children under eight years of age. His wife's age is 24, her having married at either 14 or 15. He is listed as a farmer with real estate valued at $1,215.00.

Neavel Ellison McRee and his wife, Jane, were living on their

Roderick McRee, with his wife, Jerry, and their family have in the past four years restored the second house built on the farm in the early 1900's, making it a lovely place for various McRee cousins to "come home" to, actually seeing it as a working farm in progress. Sitting on the front porch or underneath the old live oak trees is every bit as enjoyable and restful as Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee must have pictured it would be.

On the 1st of June, 1861, another child was born to Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee, a daughter, Lucretia, who lived only 19 days, dying the 19th of June, 1861. Her strength gone, Neavel Ellison McRee's first wife, Jane Margaret Walter McRee, likewise died the 3rd of July, 1861. Even Neavel Ellison McRee's mother, Martha Neavel McRee, born in either 1792 or 1793, is believed to have died in 1861. It was during this time especially that a beloved and devoted black woman by the name of "Mammy Lane" took over complete charge of raising the children.

One instance of Mammy Lane's care of the children occurred when Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee's youngest son, Julius Breckenridge, was bitten by a rattlesnake out by the smokehouse during the time when he had no mother. Without hesitating Mammy Lane started snatching up the baby chickens that were nearby cutting them open and putting their warm

estate owned valued at only $1,500.00. Neavel Ellison McRee's personal estate had decreased in value from $11,375.00 to $1,200.00. No one was in school or had attended school that year even though there were four children of school age. The seven oldest children were not living at home, although some were living nearby. They were more fortunate than many, though, as they still had some of their farm left. This was more than most had. Although the family of the John McRees had scattered, some of them and their children and other relatives were still living in Clarke County, Mississippi.

In 1880, only two children of Neavel Ellison McRee by his first wife, Jane, were living at home, Milton Brown and Neavel J. They were helping their father with the farming. At this time, all of the children who were of school age had once again gone to school.

Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee's oldest son, Ellison HughGee McRee, was living on the farm next to his father farming. Next to him lived another McRee who was a farmer also.

On the 4th of July, 1883, Neavel Ellison McRee died leaving his second wife, Susan, to live alone with her children. Cosmo Lawdon, their youngest child is supposed to have died on the 10th of July, 1883, six days after his father's death. Susan Jewell Bartee McRee joined Neavel Ellison McRee in death on the 19th of June, 1912. It is not known

First Farm Owner

Neavel Ellison McRee, born July 2, 1820; died July 4, 1883, the first McRee to own the present Roderick McRee farm. (Photo courtesy Dixie Lee Streeter.)

In 1888, Julius and "Josia" McRee are listed as being members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Redland, Leon County, Texas. This was five to seven miles northwest of their home.

He made plans to order new furniture to be sent up from New Orleans, Louisiana, to join the organ which he supposedly had ordered from there earlier. The organ and a violin or fiddle, were played by ear by Julius Breckenridge McRee in the evenings to supplement the poetry which he read to his family for their

enridge McRee before his death was lost during this time. The oldest girl, Alma, went away to work some during this time, working as a teacher as early as 1899 to help the family. Only 18 years of age she taught at various rural schools boarding out with some of the families who lived nearby the school. At other times she went further away to larger towns or cities to work at other jobs. The entire family began to look to her for guidance and help. They made it by the grace of God and by His having them descend from a line of people characteriz-

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side of the Chickasawhay River about two or three miles southeast of DeSoto.

John Neville McRee, oldest child of the John McRees, and his wife, the former Elizabeth Rogers, settled over closer to the area of Manassa about 76 farms past Neavel Ellison McRee, his brother.

Neavel Ellison McRee, born the 21st of July, 1820, in South Carolina, the John McRee's third child and next to oldest son, and his wife, Jane Margaret Walter McRee, born to Jeremiah and Elizabeth Bethea Walter on the 25th of April, 1818, in South Carolina, along with their young son, Ellison HughGee, settled on the west side of the river about one mile from his parents on land for which George Knight had secured the land grant and owned.

In 1850, the John McRees along with their sons, Robert, Franklin, George and William, were farming, their real estate being valued at $800.00.

John Neville McRee, oldest son of the John McRees, and his wife and their seven children were listed with John and one son engaged in farming. Three of their children were attending school.

The third oldest son of the John McRees, Thomas Richardson McRee, was living with his wife, Anna Jane Bethea, next door to his parents. The census for 1850 shows that they had married within that year.

Neavel Ellison McRee, and his wife, Jane, and their six children were farming. Their real estate was valued at $750.00, nearly as much as his fathers. None of their children had attended school that year as they were all under the age of nine.

In 1851, Neavel Ellison McRee, sold four acres of his land. His signature was witnessed by George Knight.

In 1854, John McRee, died leaving Martha, a widow, to live with their son, Neavel Ellison McRee and his family. John McRee is buried near the Chickasawhay River in an old, abandoned cemetery. His fallen tombstone, completely covered with dirt, was found in 1982 by two special friends and this writer. It reads, "In Memory of John McRee who died February 14th, 1854, aged 65 years, 11 months and 12 days."

Along beside it is the tombstone of John McQuaig which reads, "Sacred to the

Neavel Ellison McRee and his wife, Jane, were living on their original farm with their 12 children: . His mother, Martha Neavel McRee, was living with them. His real estate was valued at $4,800.00, and his personal estate was valued at $11,375.00. Their oldest son, Ellison HughGee, was helping his father with the farming. Elizabeth Martha, their oldest daughter, was at home helping her mother with all of the younger children. The next five children were in school with the ones seven and under being at home.

They lived on the farm now owned and operated by the Roderick McRee family. Neavel Ellison McRee and his wife, Jane, and their children began the work which turned the present day farm into the showplace that it was and is this present day.

Nothing could be more serene or peaceful than the pastoral view which one has when the last curve in the road is rounded and the present day farmhouse in its setting comes into view. The same must have been true in those days also as very little other than the house itself has changed. The old house built by Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee was back in the present day garden area. The old smokehouse and log crib are original to the place.

Great expectations for the future were made when the acorns of the seven old live oak trees were carefully brought with them and planted, knowing that it would take many, many years before they would reach their full maturity, eventually shading almost the entire area, so great did they grow, taking at least three persons arms joined together to reach around the massive trunks. These live oak trees themselves represent the strength characterized by the McRee family. This strength is what it took for them to go on for the next few years, handing on when times and conditions were more than difficult, somehow managing to hold the farm together to be owned and operated by four successive generations--Neavel Ellison McRee, his son, Neavel J. McRee, his son, Robertus McRee and his son, Roderick McRee. As both the trees and the McRees grew when the work was done, the slaves, and later workers, as well as the family, would gather underneath them to rest and sing the old songs and hymns.

snatching up the baby chickens that were nearby cutting them open and putting their warm bodies against the bite. Somehow this served to draw the venomous poison from his body. Each offspring's family no doubt has similar stories of her watchcare of her flock.

At one point Neavel Ellison McRee wanted to build her a new cabin to reward her for her faithful care of his family, but she did not want a new cabin. All that she wanted was to be buried with his family in the "white folk's" cemetery.

Neavel Ellison McRee and his oldest son, Ellison HughGee, like everyone else, joined the Confederacy and fought for it. It is thought that Thomas Bruce, next to oldest son of Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee, fought in it also.

On the 22nd of August, 1862, Neavel Ellison McRee married for the second time, this time to Susan Jewell Bartee, daughter of John P. and Nancy Bartee, born the 30th of March, 1846, being the same age as Neavel Ellison McRee's fourth child, him having three children older than she was. Several of the children were near her age.

The next years were ones filled with much change and death, as had begun in 1861. Both the war and new marriage made it an extremely hard time. It took every effort on everyone's part just to keep body and soul together at a time when many friends and neighbors were losing everything that they had worked for, but somehow the farm managed to remain in the family.

On the 13th of October, 1863, Tristram Yancy McRee, one of the sons of Neavel Ellison McRee and his first wife, Jane, died.

On the 23rd of October, 1865, a son, William Oscar, was born to Neavel Ellison and Susan McRee, his second wife. However, death was to claim this child also, on the 21st of September, 1867.

The other children born to Neavel Ellison McRee and his second wife. Susan, bringing to 21 the number of children born to Neavel Ellison McRee by his two wives, Jane and later, Susan.

In 1870, Neavel Ellison McRee and his second wife, Susan, and their children were trying to pick up the broken pieces and go on, but many changes other than death had come about. They were farming, but their real estate holdings had either decreased in value or they had lost some of their holdings, making the real

Bartee McRee joined Neavel Ellison McRee in death on the 10th of June, 1912. It is not known where all of these early McRees are buried, although different ones are buried in various cemeteries of Clarke County. It is believed that Neavel Ellison McRee and some of his family are buried in the old New Hope Cemetery, but it is not known for sure as to date no tombstones for these family members have been found.

In 1879, Julius Breckenridge McRee, youngest son of Neavel Ellison and Jane McRee, heard the beckoning call of adventure and greener pastures in Texas, perhaps told to him by members of the neighboring family of Mrs. Elizabeth Knight Shepherd or written to him by his sister, Charlotte Ann, or other family members already gone to Texas. On the other hand, it could have simply been the call of love for one of the Shepherd girls. Anyway, he decided to join the Shepherd's wagon train to Texas. His father, who was still living at that time, gave him some brass "knucks" to use for protection on the way. Young Julius Breckenridge McRee bade his remaining family members goodbye, not knowing, and possibly not thinking even, that it was for the last time.

On the way to Texas, much time was spent with one of the Shepherd girls, Sarah Josephine Shepherd, and a romance soon came into bloom, the two of them becoming sweethearts. Either on the way or shortly after arriving in Texas in 1879, they were married.

The next ten years were busy years for the young family. They worked hard to accumulate something that would resemble what they had left behind in Mississippi. Their labors paid off with the acquisition of good land and crops, making it possible to purchase the things that a young man would want to provide his family. For the years, 1895-1896, an account was carried by the McDaniel & Stell General Merchandise for him, but no record is found of an account after he began to prosper. Also, he began to build a new home for his growing family, Alma, born in January 1881; Florence, born in September of 1882; George Cleveland, born in March of 1884; Claude E. born in January of 1886; Esther, born in December of 1888 and Julius Burnett, born the 3rd of September, 1891.

enridge McRee in the evenings to supplement the poetry which he read to his family for their entertainment. On a day when the work had not been too tiring an Irish "jig" and a dance around the kitchen might ensue.

He loved his wife and children and wanted to provide the best that he possibly could for them, but alas, while digging the fall crop of sweet potatoes, he got dirt in his shoe which irritated a sore that he had on his foot. After it became severely infected, the doctor was summoned. He cleaned the wound with a knife which had not been properly sterilized, setting the stage for the blood poisoning which would follow. Although told that his life might be spared if he would surrender his leg, exhibiting the strength of the McRees, chose to lose his life it if came to that, rather than a leg which would be so crucial to a farmer. So it was on the 29th of November, 1889, that he died near Leona, Leon County, Texas, and was buried at the Evans Chapel Cemetery.

Although she was four years older than her husband, Sarah Josephine Shepherd McRee, in the ten years of their marriage, had depended upon her husband for everything. Now, though grief stricken, she had the responsibility of moving into the unfinished house, cancelling the order for furniture and taking care of her family of six, trying to see that they had food to eat and clothes to wear. Once again, we find that McDaniel & Stell General Merchandise had to carry an account for the McRee family, an account for Mrs. J.B. McRee being carried for the year of 1899.

In 1900, the census taker for Leon County, Texas, listed Josephine McRee as the head of the family, a farmer with her two older sons, George, age 16, and Claude, age 14, helping her with the farm work. Although it is not listed, one of the older girls, Florence, also had to help with the farm work trying to make a crop, as well as take care of the house. Only the two younger children, Esther, age 11, and Burnett, age 8, attended school that year for a few months, helping in every way that they could also. The farm was owned free and clear, but it took everything that each one could do to keep it so. Some of the property owned by Julius Breck-

They made it by the grace of God and by His having them descend from a line of people characterized by the live oak trees and the strength that they possessed.

Once the skills of Josephine McRee were needed additionally as both a seamstress and a doctor. In a freak accident which occurred at church, one of her sons-in-law was scalped. No doctors being available, she was forced into action by necessity. Taking a needle and her sewing thread, she stitched the scalp back on so expertly that it healed without infection. No scar was ever visible on this man during his life.

After years of struggle and hard work and sometime after the Great Depression, the McRees once again began to prosper, accumulating various plots of land which adjoined their land, piecing together their farm in Leon County, Texas, much as a woman would piece a quilt top.

The death of Julius Burnett McRee, youngest and last living child of Julius Breckenridge McRees, prompted me to do something posthumously for him. As a result of my love for this grandfather and the stories that he told, a desire was created in me to know more. Consequently, I left for Clarke County, Mississippi, searching for a couple of places called Shubuta and Shepherd Springs. These were found as well as the Neavel Ellison McRee homeplace and farm, very much like it had been "in the old days". More than this were the McRee cousins who were found at and near where they and their ancestors had been down through the ages of time since 1841.

Now there is contact with descendants of Neavel Ellison McRee and both his wives, Jane, and later, Susan. Although there had been virtually no contact, if any at all, in the past 100 years, the similarities in some of the cousins of the different families are amazing. Even to expressions used to describe the various McRees. These people have been and are separated by hundreds and hundreds of miles. The love for the unknown has become a reality--not the unknown any longer--but for a family which we are once again becoming. This recently culminated in a "mini-reunion" brought about by and held at the Clarke County "Once in a Lifetime Birthday Party". It truly was "once in a lifetime" experience which made the years of work and research a labor of love. Thank you Clarke County!

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Letter To The Editor

Ancestors Tie Letters Together

Two weeks ago, we ran a letter to the editor from Dixie Lee McRee Streeter, which sought information about the Sesquicentennial Celebration.

That letter, apparently, prompted two others this week, from Lula Barlow (McRee Barlow) Bartee, from Pittsburg, California, and the other from Emily Lee Barlow Turley, from Gladewater, Texas.

Both Mrs. Bartee and Mrs. Turley sent photographs of their great grandparents, Charlotte Ann McRee Barlow and Daniel James Barlow, who were married in Quitman in 1867, and lived for a while at Pierce's Springs. We include copies of the photographs and letters.

We have no way of knowing whether these two women know each other – but their correspondence is fascinating.

The pictures were taken, according to the "cousins", between 1880-1895. Daniel died at Pine Hill, Texas, in 1889, and Charlotte Ann McRee Barlow died at Pine Hill in 1915.

From Texas

When did the Barlow family come to Pierce Springs? Clarke County, Mississippi was given as residence. William Barlow married Susan. What was Susan's last name?

William was an overseer on road building on the Tennessee Trail. He was also a farmer. William came from Alabama. William and Susan's union produced six children. What happened to William? Was he killed in a duel? I have reason to suspect. Susan married Thomas E. Moore before 1850 and Thomas E. Moore was made the children's legal guardian. Perhaps someone from the Thomas E. Moore branch could give me some answers to what occurred at that time.

There was a Daniel Barlow mentioned in some records of the Treaty of the Dancing Rabbit. Could this be William? William had a son Daniel James. Daniel James married Charlotte Ann McRee in 1867. Charlotte Ann was the daughter of Nevel Ellison McRee and Jane Margaret Walter.

Daniel joined the state militia under Captain McIntosh. In 1861 it was re-organized into the Confederacy. It was then known as Captain McIntosh's 13th Regiment of the Confederacy. Daniel came up through the ranks and made captain. He fought in 13 of the largest battles of the Civil War. He was with Humphreys Brigade near Richmond when he was wounded. He carried a mini ball in his hip until his death. Howards Grove Hospital had him listed as wounded 11-16-1864.

A few years after his marriage to Charlotte Ann Mcree they moved to Pine Hill, Texas. There he became half owner of a cotton gin and owned one of the finest stores in east Texas. Their union produced eleven children. Anyone wishing to correspond write to Emily Lee Barlow Turley, Rt. 1, Box 46A, Gladewater, Texas, 75647.

Enclosed you will find pictures of Charlotte and Daniel Barlow. Hope you can use this in your centennial celebration.

I would like to become a subscriber to your Tribune please bill me at the address listed. Start paper immediately for I hope to enjoy your celebration through your paper. I also am making plans to attend.

Your new subscriber
Emily Ley Barlow Turley
Rt. 1 Box 46A
Gladewater, TX 75647

From California

Dear Editor.

I have been taking the Tribune almost a year now, and recently resubscribed. Each week I scan the paper looking for ancestors.

My grandparents were born and raised in Clarke Co., and were married in Quitman in 1867. I was delighted to read Mrs. Dixie Lee McRee Streeter's letter. The Nevil Ellison McRee she was talking about was my great-grandfather. The Julius Breckenridge McRee was my grandmother Charlotte Ann McRee's baby brother. My father was named after Julius B. McRee.

Charlotte Ann married my grandfather Daniel James Barlow, after the Civil War. Daniel joined the 13th reg. Miss. Volunteers in 1861, and served thru the war. He was severely wounded at Fredericksburg in 1863 and again in Knoxville in 1863.

I am sending a copy of pictures we recently found of Daniel and Charlotte. If you can please print them, if some one recognized them I would like to hear from you. If not printed now, could you print them in the Christmas Holiday issue. If you wish they could be given later to the Clarke Co. Historical Society, along with any information I could help them with. Daniel and Charlotte lived near the Pierce Springs Community.

Lula Barlow (McRee-Barlow)
Bartee
147 Marys Ave.
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Pioneers

Daniel James Barlow, and Charlotte Ann McRee Barlow, whose great granddaughters both wrote us letters this week, enclosing identical photographs of them. According to the letters, the pictures were taken of the Barlows between 1880 and 1895. They both died at Pine Hill, Texas, he in 1889 and she in 1915.

Historical Hotline

The Clarke County Historical Society met for their monthly meeting 19 September 1983 at the Library in Quitman.

Guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Tom Goldman, prominent attorney and a knowledgeable historian of the Choctaw people in our area. He gave many interesting facts on the Coosas and Chickasawhay Indians.

A good group attended from all

the railroad mileage; and 85% of the factories is nothing to be ashamed of. A bold and determined spirit can do much.

Mississippi has called for another 10,000 men. I don't know where they will come from. Everyone is so weary and more of our men have died from disease than from bullets.

It seems such a short time since we were voting for our 16th president (1860) with no idea of system of labor? Publication of highly inflammable sectional books? Evil, ambitious, scheming, self-concerned men of north and south? Or was it because these two sections lost their sense of communications with each other? Whatever it was, let us hope this terrible conflict soon ends.

That scourge of the North, William T. Sherman, came our way in February. It was horrible. I was expecting the birth of little

We left the old mare, Dora, and the hogs in the pen hoping the soldiers would think that was all we had. It worked. We saved the horses and Carrie, but we lost everything else: the house and barn burned and the smokehouse ransacked. I began to have labor pains before they reached our place. Sanford carried my good feather mattress near where he hid the horses and Carrie, and Sarah helped me deliver my fine

Enterprise and then a very bad cold. But I feel a lot better this morning. I landed at Petersburg on the 7th day of June. I walked seventy-five miles. I belong to the 16 Ridg., Comp. B. Hillary, I hope these lines may find you well and all the connection. I have found some of my acquaintances here.

The Yanks are in one mile and a half of us and I can hear their guns and drums all the time.

pound, bacon, ten dollars a pound and other things in proportion. Where the Yanks went in Georgia, they swept everything for fifty miles and corn was worth seventeen dollars per bushel.

Nothing more at this time. Only remaining your loving brother until death. May God bless us is my prayer.

John"

When this war is over maybe we can mend fences with our

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sections of the County.

Dear Sarah:

I miss you so much since you and Robert left for your new home in Texas. It seems you, John and William are so far from home, and so much has happened and is happening. I wonder if I will ever see you again. All the connection is fine here, although we have had much chills and fever and no quinine to treat it with. We had only a few cases of Yellow Fever the past summer and for that we are thankful.

Our food and clothing have been sufficient. Shoes are impossible to get and when we get flour from Mobile, it takes a bucket of our Confederate money to buy a barrel of it. Sherman did not leave much untouched when he came through, but come spring when we can again plant, we will be fine.

I do hope this horrible war will soon be over. It is such a disgrace that brothers are fighting one another. But for the valor and gallantry of our men, the war would have been lost long ago. We certainly have not had the strength of equipment nor the resources the north has had. To hold out for four years when the north had 71% of the population; 81% of the bank deposits; 72% of what was to follow. The Democratic Party was split Stephen Douglas running on the northern branch and John C. Breckinridge on the Southern Branch. John Bell was running on the Constitutional Union Party ticket and Abraham Lincoln was running on the Republican Party ticket. Following the election of Lincoln, South Carolina seceded from the Union (Dec. 1860) as she threatened to do. Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas followed and later, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee forming the Confederate States of America. (February 4, 1861. Jefferson Davis, president; Alexander H. Stephens, vice-president) What a tangled weave life sometime makes: brothers fighting brothers; fathers against sons; families divided; men from every state fighting in both armies. Gen. John C. Pemberton, the Confederate Commander at Vicksburg, came from Pennsylvania and even three of President Lincoln's brothers-in-law died in the service of the Confederacy.

Sarah, why would we fight one another - Because one group believed in the sovereignty of Central Government and the other States Rights? A different

Thomas anytime when we were forewarned that he was on his way from Vicksburg to our area to destroy the railroad between Mobile and Corinth, Vicksburg and Montgomery, Ala., at their intersection in Meridian.

This was our second threat of war here in Clarke County. The first one in early 1863 did not materialize. The Yankees in their desire to take Vicksburg came as near as Newton in April 1863 to gain control of the Southern Railroad and the only supply route to Vicksburg. Jackson fell in May; the capitol was removed to Enterprise and Gen. Ulysses S. Grant occupied Vicksburg July 4, 1863. We thought we were safe after this one, but this was not to be so: Sherman was on his way. He was destroying everything in his path: churches, schools, homes were burned; tracks and rails torn up; bridges burned; locomotives and cars destroyed; all the cotton and corn burned; the cows, chickens, hogs and horses taken; food, silver and what little money we had was seized.

I was so fortunate that Sanford and Sarah were still with me. Before Sherman reached our place, Sanford took our two best horses and Carrie, the cow behind the twenty acre patch and hid them in the swamp near there.

healthy little boy, Thomas. He will be a strong one and David will be so proud of him.

From his headquarters in Enterprise, Sherman directed the destruction of this area as far south as the railroad bridge south of Quitman. He even burned the Courthouse, but thanks to some of our citizens our court records were saved by hiding them near Archusa Springs. Leaving Clarke County he turned to Meridian, then back to Vicksburg. On May 7 he moved from Chattanooga, Tennessee, onto Atlanta, arriving in September and burning that city in November: then proceeded on his infamous march to the sea. How I can sympathize with the people in his path!

William writes from Head of Little River in Louisiana that they are well. He says the Methodist are taking the day.

I guess John is still in Virginia. I trust he is safe. The last letter I received from his was written 10 June 1864 from a camp near Petersburg, Virginia and he wrote:

"Dear Sister Hillary:

I take my pen this morning to let you know I landed here safe. But I am not well. I took the bowel complaint the night I left

Hillary, I want you to and tell William and Sarah to write to me. I want you to write Martha and tell her I am alright. There is some talk of our going to Mobile and I would like that. Hillary, this is a hard place for soldiers that get scanty rations. At this time meal is one dollar a

[illegible] always said, "There is no heavier burden than a great opportunity". My Christmas wish is that God will bless us all with an end to this terrible conflict.

Sister Hillary

Enterprise,
Christmas, 1864

Letter To The Chief

From Louisiana

(This letter and suggestion was sent to Quitman Police Chief Billy Kemp. Mr. Kemp plans a trip to Louisiana this week on other business and plans to deliver Mrs. Wright's shirts to her!)

Dear Mr. Kemp,

You may not be the proper person to contact but you're the only one I know by name.

I saw in the Sept. 15 Clarke County Tribune that shirts and caps commemorating Clarke County's 150th Anniversary are for sale. Since J.W. is from Clarke County I would like to purchase two caps and a large man's tee shirt. I think it would be a good idea for an order blank to be published in the Clarke County Tribune for all the out of area people who subscribe. I am enclosing a check for $20.00 which should cover shirt, caps, tax and postage.

East Feliciana Parish where we live celebrated their 150th Anniversary in 1974.

Thank you in advance.

Yours truly,
Margaret (Terry) Wright
Route 1, Box 82
Jackson, La. 70748

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QHS 1932 Cagers

Do you remember these boys on the basketball court at Quitman High School? These are the members of the 1932 Basketball team at Quitman High School. Members of the team are: front row, left to right, Melburn Baker, Orville Fairchild, Leo Baker, Dr. Jace Watkins, Lucian Williams, Denton Scott, manager. Back row, Zack Huggins, coach, Ralph Irby, Algie Moore, Vernon Scott, Carl Martin and Raymond Irby.

Commemorative Shirts & Caps

For Out Of County Readers

Tee Shirts 50/50% Cotton/Polyester $5.00
(Adult Sm, Med, Lg, XL Children Sm, Med, Lg)

Golf Shirts 50/50% Cotton/Polyester $10.00
(Men's Sm., Med, Lg, XL)

Sesquicentennial Cap $5.00

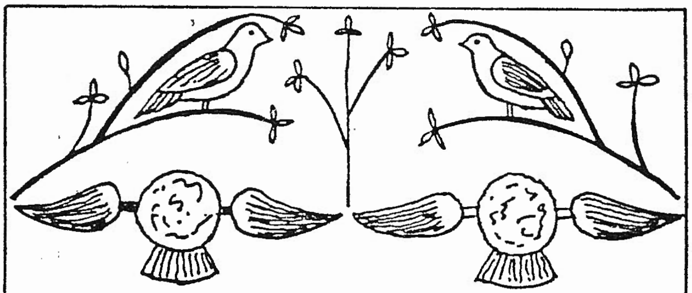
Sweat Shirts 50/50% Cotton/Polyester $10.00
(Adult Sm, Med, Lg, XL, Children Sm, Med, Lg)

Clip Form & Mail To:
Tribune
P.O. Box J
Quitman, MS 39355

Add $1.00 Mailing & Handling For Each

Name ______________________
Mailing Address ______________________

I want to order:
Items Sizes Price + Mailing ($1.00 per item) = Total



Sacred to the Memory
of

WILLIAM McREE
who departed
this life Oct 30th
1789 in the 75th
Year of his Age
An Honest Man
A good Neigh-
bour a most
affecionate Parent

DINAH McREE
who departed
this life March 23d
1798 in the 81st Year
of her Age

My soul come meditate the Day
And think( )ear it stands
When you( )this House of clay
And fly to unknown lands
And Your mine Lies down & view
This hollow gaping Tomb
This gloomy Prison was for you
Whenever the summons come
Great God is this my certain Doom
And am I still secure
Still walking downward to the Tomb
And yet prepare no more
As to( )for Whom this Monument was
erected this is our Hope ——— that
Here they shall slumber in the ground
Till the last Trumpets joyfull sound
Then burst their chains with sweet surprize
And in their Saviors Image Rise

Names of their children Robert Rich-ard John William David Mary Isabella James and Andrew

my line

Tombstone of William & Dinah McRee: Located at Steel Creek Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., North Carolina. — stone measures 29" x 72"

~ Their Children ~

1. Robert McRee m. Margaret Po
2. Richard McRee m.
   to Wilkes Co., Georgia
   by 19 Dec. 1786
3. John McRee m. Ruth Alexander
4. William McRee m. 1st ______
   m. 2nd Jane Craighead
   Wm. & Jane lived near present day Soddy, Tenn.
5. David McRee m.
6. Mary McRee m.
7. Isabella McRee m. John Neely
8. Rev. James McRee
   m. Rachel Cruser
9. Andrew McRee
   m. Martha Elliotte

Prepared by
James Michael McRee
~1980~